

Rocky Mountain Medical Journal

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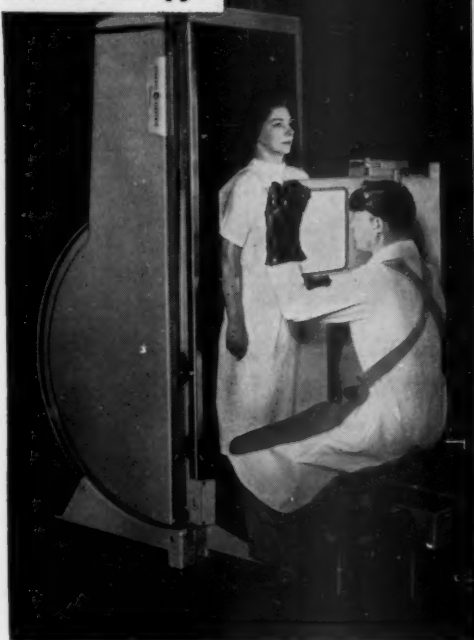
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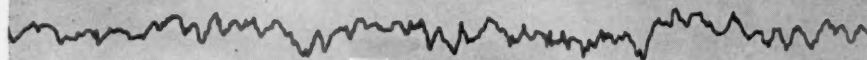
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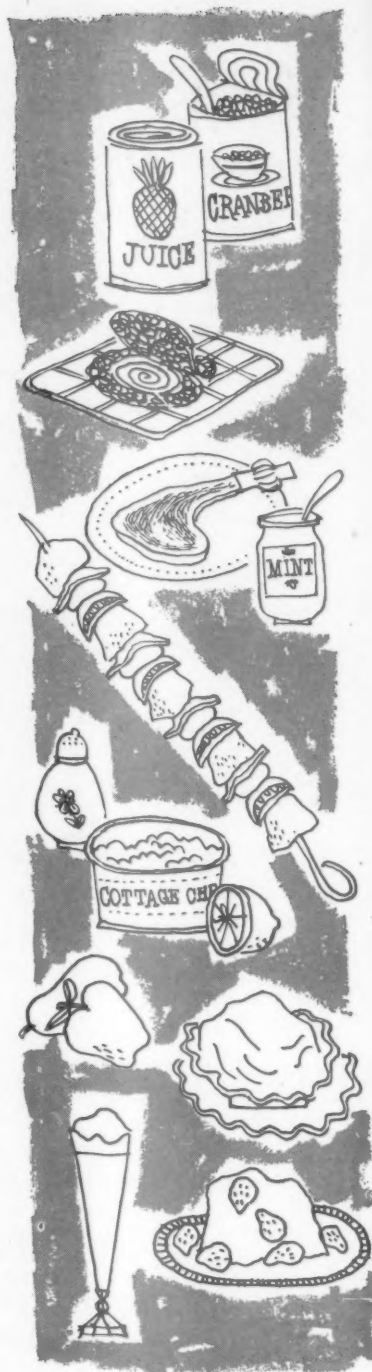


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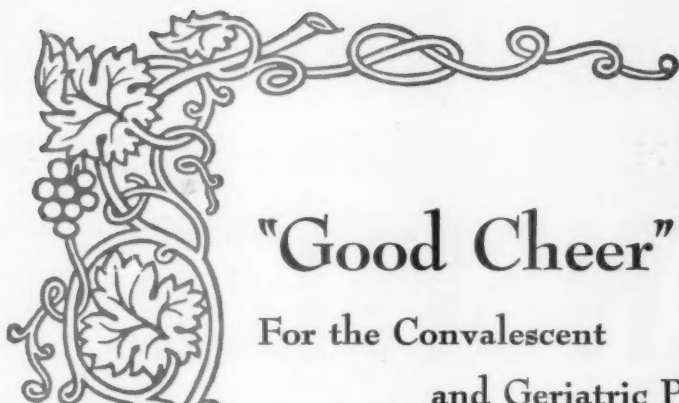
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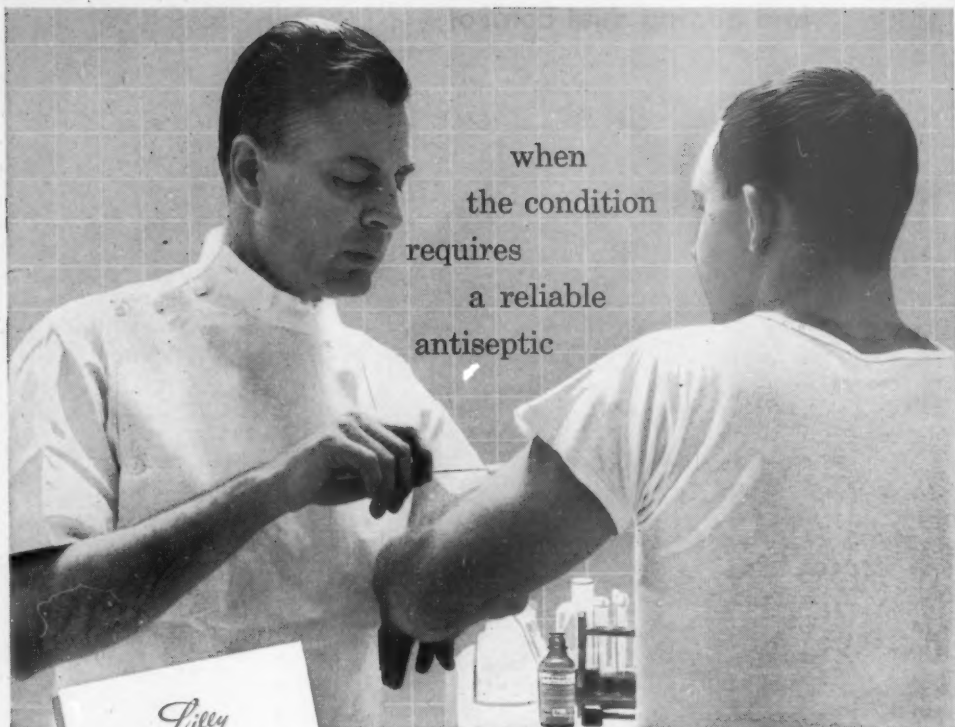
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EDITORIALS

RESPECT for open wounds is reflected in gentle handling, fine instruments, and light-weight suture material. Students are taught to avoid further damage to tissues already afflicted with trauma.

Antisepsis in Open Wounds

Bacteria inevitably present may be washed away before they have time to invade; if they are washed away, they need not be killed by some antiseptic substance capable of also injuring tissue cells. These are basic facts.

A colleague has written to the A.M.A. with a question which has been answered in the section "Queries and Minor Notes" of the Journal. The question reads, "What is the accepted opinion on the use of tincture of merthiolate as adjunct treatment of abrasions and lacerations of the skin? Is the tissue destruction resulting from its presence in a wound of a sufficient amount to contraindicate its use as an antiseptic or a germicidal agent? Is there any clinical evidence to support a claim that greater risk of wound infection or delayed healing would result if tincture of merthiolate were to be applied to a laceration already prepared by debridement and the use of a good detergent prior to suturing?" The answer is interesting. It comments upon the oft-repeated denial that organic mercurial antiseptics possess any high germicidal value, and that test tube conditions differ from wounds and skin surfaces. In some instances, alcohol alone has been more effective than the same alcohol containing a mercurial disinfectant. It is probable that certain tinctures actually do little damage to tissues unless presence of extraneous substances alter chemical composition. In any event, ample evidence regarding reduction of bacterial flora by application of antiseptics indicates that their effect is variable, disappointing, and unpredictable.

Let us be ever mindful of the simplest means of cleansing a wound in preparation for repair. Physiologically, normal saline solution is more compatible with tissues than is water. In fact, water is traumatic and painful in large wounds. Even upon compound brain injuries, soap and normal saline solution do only good—not harm. Why not tender all traumatic wounds the same respect?

CLICHES in medical writing have received the gibes of our readers for years. Of all the words which are used and abused, ad nauseam, is the word "marked"; even more inane is its running mate "markedly."

Authors, Hear Ye!

Distraught colleagues sharing editorial responsibilities of State Medical Journals plead in self-defense against these two words. One Editor offers a list of synonyms, together with a prayer that they will be used again and again until finally in the future the cliches "marked" and "markedly" will never be heard again: "Great, copious, abundant, large, tangible, evident, perceptible, clear, unmistakable, decided, pronounced, distinct, appreciable, extreme, noticeable, prominent, conspicuous, outstanding, salient, and others."

With so many good words from which to choose, what sort of mental laziness has victimized those who express definite findings, signs, and symptoms by only one poor and senseless word? It is almost as absurd as the more generally abused term "by and large." Definition of the latter should defy the imagination of the most imaginative among writers and speakers. We would like to join our fellow editor in stating, "Let us take our hats off to the wag who suggests that what the world needs is not only a good five-cent cigar, but a set of new cliches as well."

AN ARTICLE of particular interest to physicians of the Rocky Mountain region appeared in a recent issue of the Wisconsin Medical Journal. It is entitled "Climate

Sunshine and Cutaneous Cancer

and Cutaneous Cancer," by Dr. David Goe Welton. The author quotes from a lecture by Dr. William F. Peterson of 1934, at which time Dr. Peterson was Professor of Pathology at the University of Illinois: "Meteorological environment has a great deal to do with the reaction of the human organism as it finds clinical expression in the inadequacies that we call diseases." Comment was made upon the primary interest of medicine being centered upon infectious diseases from the middle of the last century until about twenty years ago, when more attention started toward noninfectious diseases. These, of course, included the tumors.

Dr. Welton has been particularly impressed by the high incidence of skin cancer and its relationship to exposure to sunlight in North Carolina and the Southern states. For example, in Georgia there are six times as many epitheliomas in the white population as in the Detroit and Chicago areas. Though epitheliomas occur less often in women than in men, there are three times as many in the female population of the South as in the North. In various southern areas and in Denver, the most common primary site of all cancer is in the skin. In Fort Worth and Dallas, 50 per cent of all cancers in white males occur primarily in the skin, compared with 12.5 per cent in Chicago. Public Health Service surveys indicate that incidence of skin cancer parallels the number of hours of sunshine, but this is not the only factor. The average temperature is 40 per cent higher in New Orleans than in Chicago; therefore, people of New Orleans are exposed to many more hours of sunshine than people of Chicago. In the Carolinas are many persons whose forebears lived for generations on the British Isles. These people have fair and ruddy complexion, as do many whom we see in this section of the United States. Their skin does not tan and has little defense against carcinogenic

ultraviolet radiation. Here, too, incidence of skin cancer is high.

The carcinogenic elements of sunlight are the ultraviolet rays in the range of 3,200 angstrom units and shorter, which comprise about 0.2 per cent of the sunlight. Laboratory workers have produced epitheliomas and other tumors by exposing laboratory animals to these wave lengths. Blum states, "Tumor growth is progressively accelerated by regularly repeated doses of ultraviolet radiation, the amount of acceleration being directly proportional to the dose." Sunlight is not responsible for all types of cutaneous cancer. For example, malignant melanomas usually occur on unexpected areas.

Dr. Welton summarizes all of the evidence he has collected as follows:

1. Ninety per cent of cancers of the skin occur on the hands and face.
2. Outdoor workers and others who are exposed to sunlight over a period of years are the most susceptible to this type of cancer.
3. Ultraviolet radiation with wavelengths present in sunlight induces cancer of the skin in mice and rats.
4. Skin cancer (in humans) is much more common in the Southern than in the Northern latitudes.
5. Persons who are relatively immune to sunburn, particularly Negroes, are less susceptible to skin cancer.

In conclusion Dr. Welton makes the philosophic deduction that astronomy directly or indirectly has much to do with health and the practice of medicine, for "with the seasons men's diseases, like their digestive organs, suffer change."

Those of us who practice in the higher altitudes where ultraviolet rays are not filtered out by dirt and "smog" are interested in this statistical evidence that prevalent rates of skin cancer are greatest here and in the Southern states. Many of our people make their living out-of-doors; and down South the populace spends more hours in the open. Whether or not we are particularly concerned with dermatoses or cutaneous tumors, let us remember to warn our outdoor patients to wear hats and gloves and to be temperate in worship of the sun. This small effort on our part will constitute a substantial bit to public health education and preventive medicine in the Rocky Mountain region.

ARTICLES

Common Eye Problems Encountered In General Practice*

James S. Shipman, M.D.
and Cyril M. Luce, M.D.

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

OPTHALMOLOGY occupies a unique, but somewhat peculiar, position in the armamentarium of most general practitioners. More than in any other minor specialty which the general practitioner is called upon to practice, there has been a remarkable tendency to undertreat or overtreat the patient. The source of this difficulty rests not with the general practitioner, who is generally a member of a remarkably capable group of men, but with the training popular in the past several decades in our medical schools. As most of you remember from your medical school days, your eye training was indifferent, if not actually poor. There seems to have been two major reasons for this deficiency of training. First, clinical ophthalmologists were called in to teach. These highly specialized men are generally out of touch with basic general medicine, and tend to make their lectures dull with too many details and highly technical approaches. Secondly, the students at the threshold of medicine tend to scorn the minor specialties and hold, as their ideals, medicine, pathology, physiology, and general surgery. As a result, eye lectures are often dull to both parties and unproductive of results. The general practitioner, consequently, tends either to disclaim all knowledge of eye diseases, or occasionally, to claim he knows more than he actually does. This situation confuses the patient, as he expects his family doctor to know something about everything. The general practitioner often will not attempt to treat a simple eye problem or, on the other hand, will treat a

serious lesion that he had best refer. So ophthalmology often continues to be unsatisfactory to many general practitioners. We hope that better teaching methods will rectify this problem. In the meantime, most general practitioners probably encounter about 1 to 2 per cent eye patients in the total of their general practice. Some of you practicing in more remote areas of this State will be called upon to render more eye care than those in a more populated area. In general, it is more important to remember what not to do than what to do. The obvious reason is that a mistake in the treatment of the eye is immediately apparent to the patient and to his relatives, both in terms of cosmetic appearance and in reduction of vision which the patient himself can evaluate.

First, there are two segments of the population which are more likely to have ocular diseases, the young and the aged. In general, people 20 to 40 years of age are not likely to have serious eye disease, except for traumatic and inflammatory lesions. In infancy, many ocular lesions are missed because of inattention and difficulty of examination. Those of you who do your own obstetrics and pediatrics should perform at least a cursory examination of the infant's eyes. The orbits should be checked to observe that both globes are present, of equal size, cornea clear, pupillary space black, and conjunctiva pink. Congenital ocular defects noted by the general practitioner serve to inspire confidence in the parents' minds. It serves to show that their general practitioner is interested in all phases of their child's health.

In the first year of life certain ocular defects may be noted, most properly by the

*Presented before the annual meeting of the Utah State Medical Association at Salt Lake City, on September 8, 1955.

family doctor. Congenital defects again assume importance in the parents' minds. They like to be reassured that their child is "normal." The general practitioner should have a firm mental picture of the proper size of the globe so that he can be aware early of a small globe, microphthalmos, about which little can be done—and a large globe, congenital glaucoma, about which a great deal can be done in the early stages.

Coloboma of the eye is a relatively uncommon lesion, but most of you will have occasion to deal with one or more of its manifestations. The coloboma may involve the lid, causing a notched defect; the iris, causing a keyhole pupil; the lens; the ciliary body; the choroid; the retina; and the optic nerve. One or all of these structures may be affected in a given case. Except for plastic repair of the lid, there is no treatment available.

Dermoid Cysts are occasionally found by the mother. These are small tumors located beneath the upper lid near the outer canthus. The treatment consists of a careful dissection of the mass.

Congenital Cataracts are fairly common and may present a problem in differential diagnosis from other conditions which appear as a white mass behind the lens. Some of these will be mentioned later. It is well to remember that some congenital cataracts are compatible with fairly good vision, and that in general this type cataract is not progressive. You are all familiar with the numerous congenital defects that maternal rubella in the first trimester of pregnancy can cause, one of the defects being congenital cataract.

Retinoblastoma or **Glioma** is one of the most distressing of all congenital diseases. This tumor is usually considered to be present at birth or shortly after; however, it may occur later. It causes the white pupil, usually first noted by the mother. The only treatment is enucleation and observation of the remaining eye, as the tumor is bilateral in 25 per cent of the cases, and is fatal unless the eye is removed.

Retrolental Fibroplasia, a hopeless condition in early infancy, has been more than

adequately reviewed in the literature of the last five years. I will mention only that prematures should be carefully controlled as to the amount of oxygen they receive. Most investigators now feel that the oxygen concentration should not exceed 40 per cent—that oxygen should be given for the shortest period possible, and that it is wise to use a gradual oxygen weaning process.

Hemangioma on the lids or periorbital area is a common congenital defect. Fortunately, a large percentage of these lesions will disappear without treatment. For those that do not, some type of surgical approach, such as dry ice, sclerosing solutions, or best of all, surgical removal, gives good results. Radiation is probably too hazardous to consider.

One problem which seems to plague general practitioners is that of tearing in the first year. Many of these will clear without specific treatment, other than local antibiotic therapy and massage over the lacrimal sac. Those who do not respond within a month should be seen by an ophthalmologist and have the tear duct opened by a minor surgical procedure.

Squint or Cross-Eye constitutes another major problem to the general practitioner, who can best serve here by advising the parents that such a condition does or does not exist, and that further medical help is needed. Two outmoded concepts should be abandoned—first, that children will "out-grow" squint; and second, that nothing should be done until the child is 5 or 6 years of age. Each year squint surgery is being done more regularly in the 1 to 3 year age group. The general practitioner should have at his command a very simple test to determine if a child's eyes are straight, the corneal reflex test: Briefly, a flashlight is held about one-half meter before the child pointing at his eyes, and the relative position of the corneal light reflex is noted on each eye. If the reflex is symmetrical, there is no squint; if the reflex is closer or further in relation to the limbus as compared with the other, the eyes are not straight. The role of the general practitioner in squint is to serve as adviser to the

in rheumatoid arthritis

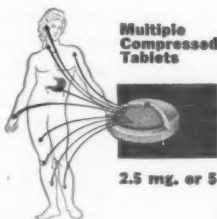
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References: 1. Boland, E. W., *J.A.M.A.* 160:613, February 25, 1956. 2. Marjolis, H. M., et al. *J.A.M.A.* 158:454, June 11, 1956. 3. Bollet, A. J., et al. *J.A.M.A.* 158:459, June 11, 1956.

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family as to when and if the child should be referred. Therefore, he should know the rudiments of squint.

Trauma is an important adnexa of "growing up." Ocular trauma unfortunately is all too common, with air-guns, bows and arrows, swords, flippers, and other weapons of childhood. Here there is no simple rule to guide a general practitioner as to what he should or should not handle—but, in general, he should avoid cases that have a marked visual loss in the affected eye. The vision can be tested easily and should be done in each eye by *all* doctors, especially in any case that has a medico-legal aspect. Cases that have a disruption of the normal relationship of the cornea, anterior chamber, iris and pupil should be avoided. Fortunately, we have been provided with two eyes for comparison. On the other hand, a subconjunctival hemorrhage, dreadful as it may appear, is usually harmless, and can be handled most competently by the family doctor.

Allergic Disorders of the eye are common in children. The usual bacterial inflammations, granulomatous diseases, such as tuberculosis lues, and fungus infections, and to a lesser degree, vascular and metabolic disorders are also common in the younger age group.

"Red Eye," a broad subject, has been discussed in lectures and books almost to a point of severe boredom. But at the risk of being repetitious, I feel that it is necessary to mention the chief conditions causing this, and the differential points in their diagnosis, as it is likely that the patient will first bring his "red eye" to his family doctor. First, I would like to state that local atropine should never be used by a general practitioner. Medical students somehow seem to learn that the only drug to use in the eye is atropine. If you feel the eye is serious enough to need atropine, get rid of it! The four most common causes of "Red Eye" are *Conjunctivitis*, *Allergy*, *Iritis* and *Glaucoma*. It is usually these conditions in which the general practitioner errs on the side of undertreatment, claiming he knows nothing about the eye, or on the side of overtreatment, giving them all an antibiotic,

argyrol or oxide of mercury, or even atropine, without discrimination. In this way, he does a disservice to the patient, as many of the people he can treat effectively without the additional expense of referral to a specialist. On the other hand, an eye can be lost through improper treatment. In the first instance, a family doctor can treat very well conjunctivitis and allergic disorders. The last two, *Iritis* and *Glaucoma*, should best be referred at once. His real problem resolves to separating the etiology of the "Red Eye." To help do this, I would like to give you what I call my triad of symptoms. This is not as good or complete as the table you all dimly remember in May's book, but it has the advantage that it can be remembered without reference to a book. The three components consist of *vision*, *pain*, and *congestion*.

In the first two conditions, *Conjunctivitis* and *Allergic Disorders*: the vision is normal, there is no pain, but rather only a mild foreign body type sensation, and the cornea, anterior chamber, iris and pupil are intact. The congestion is *brick red* in color, and is less intense at the limbus than it is farther away. In the latter two conditions, *Iritis* and *Glaucoma*: the vision is usually reduced, and the congestion is more of a *purplish red color* and more intense near the limbus. The cornea may be hazy, the iris muddy, and the pupil not equal to its fellow. Therefore, it is relatively simple to decide which cases to treat and which cases to refer. If the vision is normal, no actual pain is present, and the anterior segment of the globe appears normal, except for conjunctival congestion and discharge, then you may treat the eye with reasonable safety. If the vision is reduced, pain is present, and the normal anatomy of the visible portion of the eye is disturbed, it is best to refer the patient both for his good and yours.

Foreign Bodies are encountered more frequently in the 20 to 40 year age group, which is more active in industry. Some of you in this State will have to take care of a considerable number of these cases because of the geographical problem. I would like to mention a few points regarding the actual



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technic of this procedure: First, take the vision of each eye, and then instill a local anesthetic such as holocaine 1 per cent, or better, pontocaine ½ per cent. Then evert the upper lid of the affected eye to check for the presence of a foreign body, and if present, remove with a moistened cotton applicator. The cornea should then be inspected for an embedded foreign body and, if found, this should be removed with a suitable steel spud. I prefer one with a fairly sharp triangular tip on one end, and a small dental burr on the other. This latter is excellent for curetting iron-oxide pigment. The pupil should be dilated with homatropine, an antibiotic instilled, and then a mild pressure patch applied. The patient should be seen again in twenty-four hours. His eye should be well or nearly well at that time. If it is not, it is wise to refer the patient for more specialized care. Naturally, a very careful history should be taken of all accident cases, and this will often suggest the possibility of an intra-ocular foreign body. Careful observation of the lids, cornea and conjunctiva should always be made with special attention paid to evidences of a small laceration or perforation of the globe, with particular attention to any disturbance of the normal anatomy of the anterior segment. If there is any doubt whatever, always refer the patient for an x-ray.

Alkali and Acid Burns to the eye are frequently found in this age group. These result from plaster, cement, sodium hydroxide, sometimes used as an industrial cleaner, and various acids. When these patients are first seen, they should be given copious flushes of water, and then referred immediately to an ophthalmologist. These are often disastrous eyes to treat, whether in the hands of a general practitioner or an ophthalmologist.

We arrive now at the older age group in which ocular defects again become more common, as in childhood. Here the congenital disorders are less, and are replaced by the degenerative diseases of old age. A good deal of general medicine and ocular pathology now join hand in hand to threaten the patient with the ominous forebodings of old age. Most older people accept pain and

locomotion defects with relative stoicism, but the loss of a special sense often proves to be a serious psychological, economic, and social handicap, which may overwhelm them. You have only to contemplate your life without vision or hearing to realize the remarkable functions these senses serve. In the older age group, the eye is unfortunately subject to many disorders, and here the family doctor can, if he wishes, deliver real comfort and aid to a bewildered and frightened patient. The fear of blindness is strong in most people for a variety of reasons, and the family doctor is in a position to relieve this fear with a minimum of delay and expense.

Cataract to most patients means blindness, but it should not, since loss of vision due to this, can be most easily relieved. The general practitioner should remember that cataract extraction is now done when the visual loss is such that it interferes with that particular patient's occupation or visual need. Much suffering can come to the patient if he is advised that cataracts have to "ripen" before they can be removed. This type of advice has been out of date for the last twenty years. Also, it might be of interest to know that in recent years, ophthalmologists are removing unilateral cataracts much more frequently than they previously did. As can be readily seen, much harm can be done to a patient, especially economically, by unwise advice. Remember the patient looks to you for expert advice in all medical matters.

Chronic Simple Glaucoma is one of the most serious ocular problems of the elderly group. Unfortunately, there is no simple diagnostic procedure to determine its presence. The symptoms are insidious, and the findings are minimal. Tonometer measurements on all general patients over 40 years of age is as remote as routine pelvic and rectal examinations were thirty years ago. The best I can tell you is to have a high "glaucoma suspicion" in all patients over 40 who are complaining of headaches, blurred vision, seeing halos or rings around lights, difficulty in reading, poor night vision, and watery or red eyes. These patients ordinarily have a refraction problem that needs

attention and a referral will be welcomed by them. As you may notice this is my first reference to refraction. I have purposely avoided the subject in an effort to impress upon you that ophthalmology is a medical specialty with refraction a side-issue. Your ophthalmologist is a colleague to help you with medical problems first, and refractions secondarily.

Uveitis is a common disorder of older people. These are often difficult to treat and the prognosis may be poor. There is still fair evidence that these cases may be caused by foci of infection in the body, and often require the help of most of the services in hospital to track down the etiological factors.

Retinal Detachment is a serious ocular disease, more common in those of the older age group. It requires surgical treatment, and delay in treatment is often disastrous to the eye. A patient who seeks advice with symptoms of flashes of light, a cloud in a portion of his visual field, and a central visual loss, deserves immediate consultation. In a fairly large group of cases of retinal detachments that have come under my observation, I have found this disease to be bilateral in 23 per cent of all cases. For this reason, in cases of detachment in only one eye, I feel that it is wise to advise the patient, regardless of his age, to have detachment surgery, because without surgery, this affected eye is doomed to blindness. If the patient at some later date should develop a retinal detachment in his second eye, and the results following surgery, which then *must* be performed, are bad; any results which might have been obtained with surgery on the first eye would then be invaluable and prevent total blindness to the patient.

Diabetes and Vascular Lesions of the Brain can often cause damage to the nuclei of the extra-ocular muscles with resultant sudden diplopia and squint. The general practitioner should be aware of these complications so that he is not taken off guard. *Diabetes* is responsible for one of the most hopeless and heartbreaking causes of blindness that we have today, *Diabetic Reti-*

nopathy. Here the ophthalmologist can help a great deal in softening the blow and preparing the patient for ultimate blindness. Treatment at present is of no avail.

Hypertensive Retinopathy from essential hypertension, renal disease, and pregnancy are often a problem to the general practitioner from the visual standpoint. Here the ophthalmologist can serve a real function in that he can give periodic reports of the fundus findings and help to guide your therapeutic regime.

Occasionally in older patients with vascular disease, you will have one come to you with a history of sudden loss of vision in one eye. The lesion is most often in the posterior segment of the eye and will usually prove to be an occlusion of the central vein or artery. Sometimes it may be due to a large vitreous hemorrhage. It is wise to remember that not all vitreous hemorrhages come from hypertensive or arteriosclerotic vessels. Many times they come from diabetic retinopathy. Also some are associated with melanomas of the choroid and retinal detachments.

Senile Degeneration of the Macula is another degenerative lesion of the eye in which the general practitioner can play an important part in encouragement to the patient. In this disease the central vision is reduced to about 20/200, or 10 per cent of normal, but the peripheral field of vision remains normal. These people are usually afraid they are going blind, and they are relieved and grateful when they are told that they will no longer be able to read, but that they will *never* go blind. It is a great help to the ophthalmologist to have the general practitioner understand this, and encourage the patient in this regard.

Corneal Transplant due to development of the past few years, offers some hope of vision to the occasional patient seen in your practice. This type of surgery however, is applicable only to those cases that have a scarred cornea, and a relatively normal eye back of the cornea. For this reason, one should not encourage blind patients too much regarding the results from a corneal transplant.

Perhaps we should have an anticlimax here and discuss minor ocular surgery which is within the province of the general practitioner to perform. Chalazion of the lid is a fairly common disorder which can be handled very well by the family doctor. One word of advice only—be careful if the chalazion is near the lower punctum. You may destroy it and cause a permanent tearing, a symptom which is very unpleasant, to say the least. I am told by my associate, Dr. Cyril M. Luce, that pterygium is a fairly common lesion on the great Western Desert. I would not advise that this condition be operated by the general practitioner unless he has had some special training in the procedure. However, its position and growth over the cornea should be noted and the patient referred for surgery before the central portion of the cornea becomes involved.

Diseases of the Central Nervous System may affect the eye or its adnexa. The family doctor is often the first point of contact for the patient, and he can often serve a real life-saving function if the lesion happens to be an expanding intracranial neoplasm. Here, of course, papilledema is the ocular finding of noteworthy importance. The general practitioner should be sufficiently familiar with the use of an ophthalmoscope so that he can recognize the normal disc from the abnormal. He may not always be able to state that papilledema is present, but at least he should be able to state that the optic disc is, or is not, normal.

In this manner he will be alerted to secure more expert opinion.

I would like to endorse and join the crusade of our capable and sincere President of the American Medical Association, Dr. Elmer Hess. He has stated, "Any doctor who goes into the room of a seriously sick patient with only scientific medical knowledge, is not fully prepared, and cannot adequately administer to that patient's needs." I am in full accord with Dr. Hess, and I feel that any doctor to take his place in medicine completely and successfully, must have a sincere belief and confidence in a "Supreme Being" far greater than himself. He must be sympathetic and understanding, and know how to "reach people." Indeed, we as physicians, should remember that we are not just diagnosing and treating a disease; but rather, we are dealing with disturbed minds and souls that are asking for help.

In closing, my purpose here has been to try to bring general medicine and ophthalmology into a closer relationship. You do not have to be an ophthalmologist to diagnose and treat many ocular conditions. Any doctor can do this if he has a mind that functions while observing. The eye is in such an exposed position and is so uniquely suited for observation by the naked eye, that a great many fascinating pathological lesions are waiting and available for the man who will turn his flashlight to the eye and take a *good look*.

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The death rate, from all causes, per 100,000

people has been chopped nearly in half, the average for all age groups. The greatest area for death's holiday is among babies, but there still are dramatic extensions of life for age groups over 55.

Mortality has been cut 40 per cent among men and women 45 to 54, and 30 per cent among those 55 to 64. It's down 20 per cent for people 85 and older.

Despite these gains, Americans' record of preserving health and life is still "not as good as it might be," declares George Bugbee, president of the Health Information Foundation. The foundation is a fact-finding educational organization sponsored by 200 companies in the drug, pharmaceutical, chemical and allied industries.—B. C. Enquirer and News, Feb. 19, 1956.



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Hypogammaglobulinemia (Acquired Agammaglobulinemia)*

H. C. Rosenstiel, M.D.

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

IN 1952 and 1953 Bruton, et al., reported three cases in male children of a clinical entity characterized by multiple recurrent severe bacterial infections associated with almost complete absence of serum gamma globulin but with normal total serum protein concentrations^{1,2,3}. Sixteen cases identical to Bruton's have been identified by Janeway and his associates⁴. These cases, also, were all in male children. The term congenital agammaglobulinemia has been applied to this group. Characteristically these children have a complete absence of serum gamma globulin, even with the use of the most sensitive immunochemical method of determination.

Several similar cases in adults, but with small amounts of gamma globulin demonstrable by the immunochemical method, have also been reported^{4,5,6,7}. Either sex may be affected. These cases have been associated with bronchiectasis and an inability to throw off respiratory infections. The term hypogammaglobulinemia has been applied to this group. Characteristically, the blood sera of these individuals reveal absence of gamma globulin by electrophoresis. (The electrophoretic determination method is capable of detecting amounts of gamma globulin greater than 100 mg. per cent.) The sensitive immunochemical method of determination usually reveals amounts ranging from 20 to 50 mg. per cent in these patients.

Hypogammaglobulinemia should be suspected in any adult who has persistent intractable bronchiectasis with recurrent respiratory infections. The electrophoretic determination of the serum proteins is not universally available; therefore, a determi-

nation of the isoagglutinins should be used as a screening test. In this entity the isoagglutinin titer is always low or absent. Consequently, any patient with bronchiectasis who has a low or absent isoagglutinin titer should have an electrophoretic determination of the serum proteins.

The patients with hypogammaglobulinemia presumably have an acquired deficiency of lymphoid tissue similar to the lymphoid deficiency which has been noted in autopsied cases of congenital agammaglobulinemia⁸. There is experimental evidence that the primary difficulty in both groups is an inability to manufacture gamma globulin. Passively transferred gamma globulin disappears slowly over a six or seven week period or even longer. Therefore, prophylactic therapy is effective.

For prophylactic therapy immune human serum globulin is administered subcutaneously at monthly intervals at the rate of 0.6 c.c. per kilogram of body weight, which contains a dose of 0.1 gm. gamma globulin per kilogram of body weight⁹. This material is the preparation which is released by the American Red Cross through the Gamma Globulin Distribution Officer of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare to the Departments of Health in the various states for the modification of measles, poliomyelitis, and hepatitis. It is now obtainable also from commercial sources. Recently the State Health Departments have been authorized to release this material for the treatment of hypogammaglobulinemia or agammaglobulinemia.

REPORT OF CASE

A 38-year-old white male veteran of World War II was admitted to the Albuquerque, New Mexico, Veterans Administration Hospital on December 17, 1953. His complaints at that time were of chills, fever, cough, and right chest pain

*From the Medical Service, U. S. Veterans Administration Hospital, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

of two days' duration. There had been no hemoptysis. He had received injections of procaine penicillin G on the day of admission, and on the previous day from his private physician.

The patient's past history revealed that since November 29, 1944, he had had many respiratory infections requiring antibiotic therapy, and with many of these illnesses hospitalization in either army, private, or veterans administration hospitals had been necessary. A review of his past medical record revealed twenty attacks of pneumonia, one attack of erysipelas, innumerable colds and sore throats, and many attacks of sinusitis. He had taken prophylactic therapy with sulfonamides until he had developed a sensitivity to them. Also at one time or another he had received prophylactic Aureomycin, Terramycin, penicillin, and antihistamines. Just prior to this admission he had been receiving weekly injections of increasing amounts of a stock respiratory vaccine (Serobacterin of Sharp and Dohme No. 4750). The experience with prophylactic antibiotics had always been that the patient could develop another attack of pneumonia while on a prophylactic dose of an antibiotic, but that larger doses of the same antibiotic would control that attack of pneumonia.

The patient had been hospitalized at this hospital on eight occasions since 1950. In April, 1950, he had pneumonia of the right middle lobe due to a pneumococcus which was treated with penicillin and Aureomycin. At that time a bronchoscopic examination revealed normal findings, and complete bronchograms revealed no evidence of bronchiectasis. In March, 1952, another bronchoscopic examination was performed with normal results. In November, 1952, another bronchoscopic examination and a gastroscopic examination revealed normal findings. On this admission he had an attack of right middle lobe pneumonia and a separate attack of left upper lobe pneumonia. In April, 1953, he had erysipelas of the right neck. In May, 1953, he had left lower lobe pneumonia, and in October, 1953, he had pneumonia of the left lower lobe.

Physical examination on this admission revealed a well-developed, thin, pale, white male who was in moderate distress due to the right lower anterior and lateral thoracic pain. There was no cyanosis or dyspnea. His temperature was 99.4° F. orally, his pulse was 110 beats per minute, and his blood pressure was 110/72. The head and neck were normal save for slight hyperemia of the pharyngeal mucosa. There was splinting of the right chest. Percussion of the lungs was normal, although the breath sounds were decreased over the right lower lung field. There were some crepitant rales over the right lower lobe area. The heart, abdomen, genitalia, rectum, prostate, skin, and lymphatics were all normal, as was the neurologic examination.

An x-ray of the chest revealed a pneumonic

infiltration of the right lower lobe. The Kahn test and the VDRL slide test were negative. Urinalysis revealed sp. gr. 1.020, with negative albumin and sugar, and microscopic examination revealed 1-15 W.B.C. per high power field. The hemoglobin measured 16 grams per cent, and the white blood count was 5100 cu. mm. with 59 per cent neutrophils, 35 per cent lymphocytes, 4 per cent monocytes and 2 per cent eosinophils. The hematocrit was 45 per cent R.B.C. and the erythrocyte sedimentation rate was 31 mm. per hour (Wintrobe).

He was treated with aqueous penicillin 300,000 U. intramuscularly every six hours from the 17th to the 28th of December. His temperature became normal within twenty-four hours, and his symptoms had all disappeared in forty-eight hours. An x-ray of the chest on December 23 revealed almost complete clearing of an infiltration. It was decided to discharge him on oral penicillin, 100,000 U. twice daily as prophylactic therapy, and he was advised to continue the weekly injections of stock respiratory vaccine. Before he could be discharged on the 30th of December, he developed a chill with fever, and a chest x-ray revealed a pneumonic infiltration of the right lower lobe lateral to the previous infiltration. His symptoms rapidly subsided on intramuscular aqueous penicillin therapy.

After this attack of pneumonia it was decided to do another complete investigation of this patient to determine whether or not bronchiectasis was present and, if present, whether he should be subjected to surgery. Bronchoscopic examination on January 15, 1954, revealed a normal tracheobronchial tree. Washings were taken to obtain cultures in order that an autogenous vaccine could be prepared. The basal metabolic was -7 per cent, the serum protein bound iodine was 8.8 gamma per cent, and a glucose tolerance test was normal. An esophogram was normal. On January 28, complete bronchograms were obtained. These were interpreted as being consistent with minimal bronchiectasis in the terminal portions of the basilar branch bronchi of both lower lobes and in the right middle lobe. Surgery was not recommended. The day following the bronchograms the patient developed nausea, vomiting, and a chill with subsequent temperature elevation to 102° F. orally. A chest x-ray revealed areas of pneumonic infiltration in the posterior basilar segment of the right upper lobe, and in the left lower lobe. At this time he had been on oral penicillin prophylaxis 200,000 U. four times daily. Aqueous penicillin intramuscularly in a much larger dose was given and the temperature returned to normal in twenty-four hours and all symptoms subsided rapidly. On February 10, the patient again had a chill with fever of 102° F. orally. A chest x-ray revealed recurrence of a pneumonic infiltration in the posterior basilar segment of the right upper lobe. This attack again responded quickly to an

increase of the dose of regular penicillin intramuscularly. On February 16, the patient developed an enlarged tender node just below the right mandibular angle which subsided within a few days. No cause for this was found. The white blood cell count at that time was 14,150 per cu. mm. with 6 per cent immature neutrophils, 81 per cent mature neutrophils, 8 per cent lymphocytes, 3 per cent monocytes, and 2 per cent eosinophils. Since admission the weekly injections of stock serobacterin had been continued. Inasmuch as the washings obtained at bronchoscopy did not produce an organism suitable for production of a vaccine, the patient was removed from prophylactic penicillin therapy in order that a satisfactory sputum culture might be obtained with the next respiratory infection. On March 27, the patient developed productive cough, fever, and sore throat with an enlarged tender lymph node below the left mandibular angle. A chest x-ray revealed no evidence of pneumonia. Sputum cultures were obtained, however, and revealed *Neisseria*, *B. Hemolytic Streptococcus*, *Micrococcus*, *Gamma Streptococcus*, and *Pseudomonas*, and an autogenous respiratory vaccine was prepared. Sputum cultures on February 16 and 17 had revealed a *pseudomonas* from which a vaccine was prepared. Both of these vaccines were begun in increasing amounts subcutaneously at weekly intervals during the latter part of April, the stock respiratory serobacterin was continued, and also Piromen (Baxter) in doses of 4 gamma intravenously twice weekly was begun. This was continued until the latter part of May. The vaccines were continued until mid-July. Additional laboratory studies revealed negative heterophile antibody determination, a normal anti-streptolysin titer, a negative cold agglutinin test, normal liver function tests, normal serum electrolytes, a negative isoagglutinin test, negative twenty-four hour urine specimens for porphyrins and Bence-Jones protein, normal stools and sterile blood cultures on several occasions. The patient had another x-ray-proved attack of pneumonia of the right upper lobe and right middle lobe on April 16. The white blood cell count with this attack was 16,400 per cu. mm. with 9 per cent immature neutrophils, 83 per cent mature neutrophils, 6 per cent lymphocytes, and 3 per cent monocytes. At that time he was treated with large doses of intramuscular aqueous penicillin, and streptomycin 1 gm. intramuscularly three times daily for one week. He received one transfusion of 500 c.c. whole blood. In May, he developed an exacerbation of chronic sinusitis with x-ray evidence of dense clouding in the right maxillary sinus. This sinus required lavage on several occasions for the next two months. A hemogram on June 4 revealed hemoglobin 14.6 gm. per cent, red blood cell count 4,560,000 per cu. mm., white blood cell count 11,700 per cu. mm., immature neutrophils 1 per cent, mature

neutrophils 71 per cent, lymphocytes 16 per cent, monocytes 6 per cent, eosinophils 5 per cent, basophils 1 per cent, erythrocyte sedimentation rate 15 mm. per hour (Wintrobe) and hematocrit 43 per cent R.B.C. During the second week in July, he developed right kidney colic type pain and he was thought to be passing a calculus. The urine contained albumin 2 plus, many pus cells and some red blood cells. Urine culture revealed an *aerobacter aerogenes* and intravenous and retrograde urograms revealed evidence of pyelonephritis, right. These symptoms subsided on Achromycin 250 mg. four times daily and subsequently repeated urinalyses revealed no abnormalities.

On March 24, an electrophoretic study* of the serum proteins revealed albumin 3.79 gm. per cent, alpha 1 globulin 0.29 gm. per cent, alpha 2 globulin .69 gm. per cent, beta globulin 0.52 gm. per cent, and gamma globulin 0.16 gm. per cent. Normal values of these various blood protein fractions are: albumin 4.23 gm. per cent \pm 0.29 gm. per cent, alpha 1 globulin 0.28 gm. per cent \pm 0.06 gm. per cent, alpha 2 globulin 0.68 gm. per cent \pm 0.10 gm. per cent, beta globulin 0.89 gm. per cent \pm 0.08 gm. per cent, and gamma globulin 0.93 gm. per cent \pm 0.13 gm. per cent. On May 17, another electrophoretic serum protein study revealed 0.00 gm. per cent gamma globulin and a repeat on June 6, revealed 0.00 gm. per cent.

Permission to use immune human serum globulin was finally obtained from the New Mexico State Department of Health, and the first injection was given on June 29. The dose given was only 20 c.c. because the publication containing Janeway's dosage recommendations had not yet been received⁴. Subsequently, the patient received 38 to 40 c.c. doses at four week intervals on July 27, August 24, September 21, October 19, and November 16. Serum protein determinations were made at weekly intervals from July 6 to November 3. These are shown graphically in Fig. 1. Note that the gamma globulin value remained between 0.25 gm. per cent and 0.48 gm. per cent from August 4 to November 3.

Since mid-July the patient has had no illnesses except for one or two colds which have responded to the usual symptomatic measures.

*The electrophoretic protein determinations were performed by R. D. Strickland, Ph.D., Biochemist at this institution. Whatman No. 1 filter paper strips were used in a Veronal buffer of pH 8.6, ionic strength 0.1. The voltage used was 150. The electrophoresis was carried out over a 16-hour period. Following electrophoresis the strips were stained in a solution of Ponceau No. 2 R in a solvent consisting of 4.5 parts methanol, 4.5 parts water, and 1 part Glacial Acetic Acid. The excessive dye was removed by repeated washing in the solvent. Then the dye was luted with 1/10th normal sodium hydroxide solution, and the determinations were made in a Coleman Junior Spectrophotometer.

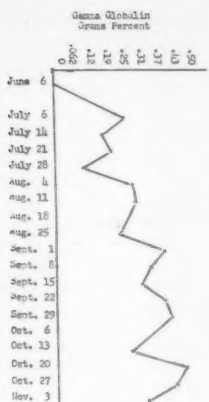


Fig. 1

Discussion

This patient developed no increase in the gamma globulin from April to July, during which time he received weekly injections of increasing amounts of the stock sero-bacterin and of two separate autogenous vaccines. After prophylactic therapy was begun, significant amounts of gamma globulin were found in the serum when estimations at weekly intervals were performed. It is not known as yet if recurrent bouts of pneumonia will be prevented

by maintenance of the gamma globulin in the range from 0.25 to 0.50 gm. per cent. There has been no attack of pneumonia since April, 1954. However, this man has had other periods of this length of time when there was freedom from such attacks. The patient is now working full time at his usual occupation as autoparts man, whereas for at least two years prior to December, 1953, he had been unable to do so.

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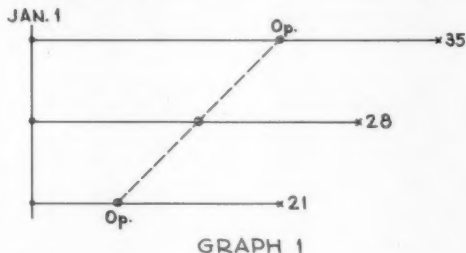
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- ²Bruton, Col. O. C.; Apt, L.; Gitlin, D.; and Janeway, C. A.: Absence of Serum Gamma Globulins. *Amer. J. Dis. of Ch.*, Vol. 84, July-December, 1952. p. 632.
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Duration of Pregnancy*

Lawrence T. Brown, M.D.

DENVER

DURATION of "normal" pregnancies will vary inversely with the length of menstrual intervals. So many unknown factors influence the duration of "normal" preg-



GRAPH 1

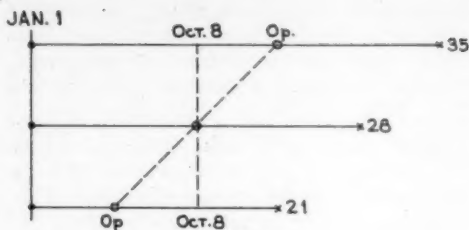
*Presented at the annual session of the Colorado State Medical Society in Denver, September 23, 1955.

nancies that a large number of cases are required to show the trend.

Graph 1 may be taken to be a diagram of the first month of pregnancy of three women. Each menstruated on January 1. Mrs. A. has 35 day menstrual intervals; opinion says she ovulates on January 21. Mrs. B. has 28 day menstrual intervals and ovulates on January 14. Mrs. C. has 21 day intervals; opinion says she ovulates on January 7.

In Graph 2, the due dates, October 8, have been superimposed upon Graph 1.

In the diagram, Mrs. B. ovulates, becomes pregnant and delivers on the same spot. Mrs. A., by opinion, ovulates and becomes

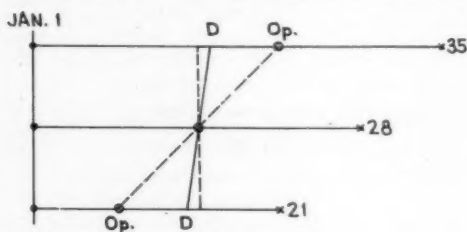


GRAPH 2

pregnant on January 21. Does she, on the diagram, deliver seven days earlier than ovulation, on October 8? Mrs. C., by opinion, ovulates and becomes pregnant on January 7. Does she, on the diagram, deliver seven days later than ovulation, on October 8?

By commonly accepted opinion, women with menstrual intervals longer than average will deliver later than their due date. Does Mrs. A. deliver seven days later than due date, putting her delivery (on the diagram) on her day of ovulation as Mrs. B. does? Does Mrs. C. deliver seven days earlier than due date, putting her delivery (on the diagram) on her day of ovulation as Mrs. B. does?

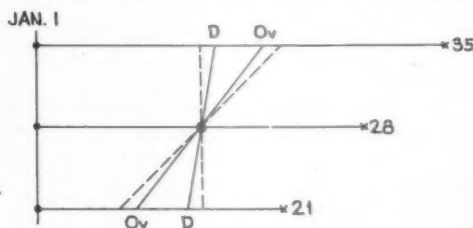
To answer these questions, the actual days of delivery of women with longer than average menstrual intervals was plotted. That plotting determines a line which crosses the 35 day line two days later than October 8. The actual days of delivery of women with shorter than average menstrual intervals was plotted. That plotting determines a



GRAPH 3

line which crosses the 21 day line two days earlier than October 8. This is shown in Graph 3.

Three researchers, Riley, Dontas, Gill, from the University of Michigan,* using women with longer than average menstrual intervals plotted their actual dates of ovulation. This plotting determines a line which crosses the 35 day line $1\frac{1}{2}$ days earlier than opinion. They used women with shorter intervals and plotted the actual days of ovulation. This plotting determines a line which crosses the 21 day line $1\frac{1}{2}$ days later than opinion. These are shown on Graph 4.



GRAPH 4

Mrs. A. ovulates and becomes pregnant on January 19 and delivers on October 10. Mrs. B. ovulates and becomes pregnant on January 14 and delivers on October 8. Mrs. C. ovulates and becomes pregnant on January 8 and delivers on October 6.

Conclusion

Women with menstrual intervals seven days longer than average will, in spite of delivering two days past due date, have a duration of pregnancy $3\frac{1}{2}$ days shorter than average.

Women with menstrual intervals seven days shorter than average will, in spite of delivering two days before due date, have a duration of pregnancy $3\frac{1}{2}$ days longer than average.

*Fertility and Sterility 6:86-102, March, 1955.

EXAMINATION OF THE MOUTH

A routine medical examination of the mouth is far too often hasty. The average examination consists of asking the patient to open the mouth and say "ah." About all that is accomplished thus

is a cursory glance at the surface of the tongue, occasionally the inside of the cheeks and the palate, and perhaps a slight glimpse of the tonsils. Many tumors are not recognized by such superficial inspection.—Ward and Hendrick.

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1. Seifter, J., et al.: To be published. 2. Fazekas, J.F., et al.: M. Ann. District of Columbia 25:67 (Feb.) 1956. 3. Mitchell, E.H.: J.A.M.A. In press.



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The Do-It-Yourself Syndrome — Presidential Address*

Stuart W. Adler, M.D.

ALBUQUERQUE

DURING the past few years a new situation has been created by the Do-It-Yourself craze. It has been estimated that at least 500,000 individuals are injured each year in the various and sundry accidents that occur when inexperience and great ambition meet at the tool bench or on the rooftop. This expanding field of worthy endeavor contributes to medical practice and is a trend of the times which can be classed as economic boom.

The reference in the title of my remarks is not, however, to this phase of Do-It-Yourself activity. Rather, I sound a warning that we as doctors must work together against any threat to the survival of the free enterprise system of medical practice. If the majority of the physicians of this country see fit to defend themselves only as individuals, the resultant action would be ineffectual. If there is failure to join hands with others in dealing with many phases of our professional relations, outside actual practice, we doctors are going to learn too late that ours is a lost cause. We will have to develop the Do-It-Together approach.

A new year is starting for the New Mexico Medical Society and there is work to be done. My predecessor has reported on the state of your Society and indicated to us his hopes for further progress. He has the right to expect continuing effort on the part of all of us in extending the worthy endeavors of the past year as well as completing any unfinished business.

My concern is about the new year which is just beginning. After observing the activities of our State Society for several years past, I am firmly convinced that the road

ahead becomes harder each year. In no one year can we ever hope to attain a completely satisfactory relationship with all the government programs, with the activities of various professional and lay groups, and with the problems of our patients and their friends. However, carefully planned action by the Society representing a united effort of its membership, can bring us step by step to a point where—as physicians—our counsel will be sought, our opinions respected, and our suggestions acted upon by spokesmen for public groups and those persons responsible for various health programs.

Study Congressional Bills

Our position in the matter of national medical care programs, including pending legislation, calls for prompt and vigorous expression and action. It should be the concern of all physicians that all individuals who need medical care or welfare benefits receive the same in adequate measure. In addition to the care given by us as private physicians, there are many phases of public health and welfare which of necessity dovetail with our personal efforts. There are also some phases of government-sponsored health activities which supercede medical care rendered privately.

Whatever our individual reactions may be to certain public health programs, as a Society we cannot ignore them nor reject them. Rather, we must use our influence to make such programs satisfactory. It should be the concern of the State Medical Societies to insure proper standards for, and proper limitation of, all government-sponsored medical service programs and welfare activities.

You are fully aware that various features of bills now pending in Congress are unfavorable to the practice of medicine as a

*Read May 2, 1956, before the 74th Annual Session of the New Mexico Medical Society, Roswell.

private venture. It is your duty to familiarize yourself with these bills. You cannot help influence their passage or defeat unless you recognize their favorable or objectionable features. You can further your Society's expressed attitude toward these pending enactments by writing your Congressman, the chairmen of committees before which hearings are being held, and by getting friends, influential citizens, and when possible your patients to do the same.

Within our own state we should be able to observe public health and welfare programs proceeding smoothly to provide the best possible services for those entitled to any form of assistance. We should also be aware of obvious infringement on the private practice of medicine. To accomplish any needed adjustments in these situations, we, as a professional group, must be able to command the respect of our State Legislature in health matters. We can only do that by representing a united medical profession when advice is sought, or when we as a Society wish to bring various matters to the attention of the Legislature. We can hardly expect constructive laws to be enacted when two lobbies of Doctors of Medicine appear on opposite sides of a controversial subject. It would be better that we had nothing to do with any phase of legislation if we are unable to present the thinking majority of the Society.

This does not mean that rugged individuals among us, with intense interest in a given cause, cannot be heard. But all debate should be confined to County and State Medical Society meetings so that, before the public and in the press, there will be expressed only the opinions and will of the majority of doctors in those societies. It is my sincere hope that we can come to a working agreement within the State Society in regard to the legislation we may seek or attempt to defeat in 1957. It should be arranged that: first, no opposition from members of the Society will be voiced publicly counter to the expressed wish of the majority; second, that the Legislative Committee of the Society have adequate support in the preparation and presentation of bills pertaining to medical matters.

Public Relations Can Be Helped

Our relations with the public in general need to be greatly improved, even after years of attempting to do just that. In united action as a Society, there must be better and fuller interpretation to the public of our thinking in the whole field of healthful living. We need to conduct an active campaign to inform the public why we oppose socialized medicine—why fees are what they are—the relationship between attending physician, the consultants, and the patient—what constitutes ethical conduct, and other pertinent subjects. When we have clearly defined our thinking within the Society in regard to the extent and manner of cooperating with the State Public Health Department and its program, we must in turn spell this out very simply to the public.

We should maintain satisfactory relations with the press, and from personal experience, I know this can be realized with a little careful planning and a somewhat modernized approach. We will have to be realistic about our thinking in regard to our relationship to others in our community who practice the healing arts with full legal authority in ways other than our own. A rapidly changing attitude, the country over, makes it difficult to know just what is best in these relationships and how to deal with conflicts that arise.

Within our own house, so to speak, there are other problems dealing with doctor-patient relationships. It is not expected that any of us can judge whether any other physician is always doing the best of which he is capable. Rather, as a group, we should set standards of conduct and professional skill high enough, so that, when accepted and adhered to, there will be no basis for criticism of doctors by patients or the general public.

It is apparent that a considerable list of grievances can be laid at the door of most of us which at times provoke unfortunate patient-to-doctor and doctor-to-doctor relations. They are all matters which can be set right with ease if we as individuals will rid ourselves in some degree of that unfortunate trait of selfishness. A little self-restraint can be prescribed for all of us,

and if taken, generally proves to be pretty good medicine. Let us remember that we have the machinery set up to hear complaints against doctors regardless of the source. With some slight changes in manner of procedure, it is hoped that this year complaints to the Grievance Committee will be handled promptly and with legal safeguards to those charged with investigation. Fortunately, complaints are not numerous and a thoughtful doctor can, by discreet handling, avoid formal action in many instances. If we can keep our house in order, we command respect from all those with whom we come in contact.

To serve as your President is a genuine honor and at the same time a tremendous responsibility. Whether you realize it or not, you really select a moderator, one who does not make the rules or necessarily plan the show. In reality, the program of the State Medical Society is your program; put into operation by your governing bodies; and dependent largely on your participation for any degree of success it may enjoy.

Safety Campaign Needed

It is probably not out of order to indicate at least two of the things which will be presented to you for your consideration if approved by the Council. First, participation in an accident-prevention and general safety campaign. If each of us conducts our daily practice with these problems in mind, much can be accomplished. There are ways in which the State Society can help as an organization. Secondly, as individuals and as members of the State Society, perhaps we have been overlooking the potential

strength of a large group who could be recruited in a greater effort to improve our public relations. I refer to the expanding Woman's Auxiliary to our County and State Societies and to the persons working in our offices who really meet the public. If these groups can be helped to understand more fully how they can help us, we could count on better public understanding of our professional aims—and personal limitations. Other states are doing more with these groups than are we in New Mexico.

There will be routine duties for all of us in the State Society, and it is hoped that more doctors can be drawn into active participation in the Society's program. This means giving time and effort and making the necessary personal sacrifice when called on to help.

May I again express my sincere appreciation for the honor you have conferred on me and give you assurance that I will serve the Society to the best of my ability; try to interpret your wishes; and undertake a program designed to make the New Mexico Medical Society as potent a force as possible on the national as well as the state level. If our program is successful, what we accomplish this year may help make the practice of medicine a little more pleasant and satisfying for you in the community where you live.

It is my sincere wish that, for the good of the medical profession as a whole, we can make use of a proven prophylactic against the Do-It-Yourself Syndrome by making a genuine effort by doctors collectively, as a Society. We simply are not strong enough as individuals.

ANTIHISTAMINICS AND COLDS

As far as the common cold is concerned, the antihistaminics seem to have overstayed the enthusiastic welcome which they received a few years ago. Basing their judgment on several apparently sound studies, the profession and the public hailed the long-sought cure with much soundings of trumpets—and noses. Unfortunately, later, perhaps more exact studies could not substantiate the early claims, and sniffles and snuf-

fles continued in spite of the generous use of the supposedly curative drugs.

The present situation in which many manufacturers still proclaim the virtues of the antihistaminics in the upper respiratory infections is typical of that in which many drugs have been found in the past. While their introduction may take only a few days or months, their ejection from current therapy may require decades of disappointment.—J. of the So. Carolina Med. Assn.

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Investigations with Nilevar show that nitrogen, potassium and phosphorus are retained in ratios indicating protein anabolism. Nilevar is thus the first steroid which is primarily anabolic and which provides a practical means of meeting the numerous demands for protein synthesis.

NILEVAR IS ORALLY EFFECTIVE • Clinical response to Nilevar is characterized not only by protein anabolism but also by an increase in appetite and an improved sense of well-being.

SAFETY AND PRECAUTIONS • Nilevar has an extremely low toxicity. Laboratory animals fail to show toxic effects after six months of continuous administration of high dosages. Nilevar should not be administered to patients with prostatic carcinoma. Nausea or edema may be encountered infrequently.

DOSAGE • The daily *adult* dose is three to five Nilevar tablets (30 to 50 mg.) but up to 100 mg. may be administered. For *children* the daily dose is 1 to 1.5 mg. per kilogram of body weight. Individual dosages depend on need and response to therapy. Nilevar is available in 10 mg. tablets. G. D. Searle & Co., Research in the Service of Medicine.

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Nilevar is indicated in the vast area of surgical, traumatic and disease states in which protein anabolism is desirable for hastening recovery. The specific indications are:

1. Preparation for elective surgery.
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3. Recovery from illness: pneumonia, poliomyelitis and the like.
4. Recovery from severe trauma or burns.
5. Nutritional care in wasting diseases such as carcinoma, tuberculosis.
6. Domiciliary care of decubitus ulcers.
7. Care of premature infants.



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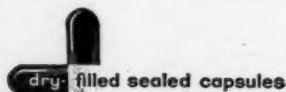
The prevention and control of cellulitis, abscess formation, and generalized sepsis has become commonplace technique in surgery since ACHROMYCIN has been available. Leading investigators have documented such findings in the literature.

For example, Albertson and Trout¹ have reported successful results with tetracycline (ACHROMYCIN) in diverticulitis, gangrene of the gall bladder, tubo-ovarian abscess, and retropharyngeal abscess. Prigot and his associates² used tetracycline in successfully treating patients with subcutaneous abscesses, cellulitis, carbuncles, infected lacerations, and other conditions.

As a prophylactic and as a therapeutic, ACHROMYCIN has shown its great worth to surgeons, as well as to internists, obstetricians, and physicians in every branch of medicine. This modern antibiotic offers rapid diffusion and penetration, quick development of effective blood levels, prompt control over a wide range of organisms, minimal side effects. There are 21 dosage forms to suit every need, every patient, including

ACHROMYCIN SF

ACHROMYCIN with STRESS FORMULA VITAMINS. Broad-range antibiotic action to fight infection; important vitamins to help speed normal recovery. In *dry-filled, sealed capsules* for rapid and complete absorption, elimination of aftertaste.



¹Albertson, H.A. and Trout, H. H., Jr.: *Antibiotics Annual* 1954-55, Medical Encyclopedia, Inc., New York, N.Y., 1955, pp. 599-602.

²Prigot, A.; Whitaker, J. C.; Shidlovsky, B. A., and Marmell, M.: *ibid.*, pp. 603-607.



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ACHROMYCIN ACHROMYCIN

The Washington Scene



A monthly news summary from the nation's capital by the Washington Office of the A.M.A.

As might be expected, a Presidential Commission's report on veterans' pensions that also goes into the subject of non-service connected medical benefits is stirring up another controversy.

The President's Commission on Veterans Pensions, headed by Gen. Omar Bradley, World War II leader and postwar Veterans Administrator, conducted a study covering more than a year in time and a wide range of subjects. It produced a 415-page report and a total of seventy recommendations.

The seven-man commission's report has this basic premise: military service in time of war or peace should be treated as discharging an obligation of citizenship and not of itself as a basis for future government benefits.

The commission made this additional point: "... under conditions of modern technology and warfare, the national defense might be served equally well by a civilian in a scientific laboratory or a war plant as by a uniformed serviceman—and in view of total war and atomic weapons, perhaps with greater personal hazard to the civilian. This further suggests that the special needs that veterans have because of military service should not be confused with the needs that all citizens have in common for such things as education, health services and economic security."

With this in mind, the commission proposes the gradual elimination of non-service connected benefits and observes: "Their justification is weak and their basic philosophy is backward looking rather than constructive." Such benefits, it adds, should be limited to a minimum level and retained only as a reserve line for veterans who fail to qualify for basic protection under Old Age and Survivors Insurance (Social Security).

The commission then goes one step further by recommending an end to the present automatic "presumption of service-connection" procedure. Now, presumption of service connection is automatic and mandatory for certain diseases if the condition is diagnosed within a specific period of time following discharge. Instead, the commission would substitute medical determination for chronic and tropical diseases, psychoses, tuberculosis and multiple sclerosis, with each case decided on its own merits.

Other recommendations: (1) increased reliance on the OASI system for certain veterans benefits, (2) prompt counseling of all veterans placed on compensation rolls as to VA and federal-state re-

habilitation programs, and (3) requirement of reasonable medical or surgical treatment before payment of compensation.

Representatives of veterans groups called before the House Veterans Affairs Committee to comment on the Bradley study complained that some of its proposals would be "extremely destructive" to certain aspects of veterans compensation.

* * *

Notes:

Two committees of Congress, after long studies of problems of narcotics, barbiturate and amphetamine addiction, have come up with recommendations that the U. S. tighten penalties on narcotics peddling and smuggling, outlaw heroin and set up a central unit in the Federal Bureau of Narcotics to keep track of known addicts. The proposals were made by the Senate Judiciary Committee and a House Ways and Means subcommittee.

The House committee also suggested a law for more stringent controls over barbiturates and amphetamines.

The Senate committee rejected the proposal backed by the New York Academy of Medicine for "clinics" where known addicts could go for regular doses of narcotics.

* * *

U. S. Public Health Service is advising private physicians as well as health officers to increase their use of Salk poliomyelitis vaccine. Although supplies now lag behind demand, the expectation is that before the summer is out the situation will be reversed. In line with this recommendation, PHS is urging that physicians use what supplies they have on hand immediately, depending on future production to take care of second and third shots.

* * *

Because the President signed the military career incentive bill promptly, physicians in uniform received their pay raises starting May 1. The minimum boost (after two years' service) is \$50 per month, the maximum (after 10 years) \$150.

* * *

Private-profit nursing homes, hospitals and some other medical facilities soon will have an opportunity to obtain U. S. loans from the Small Business Administration. The limit is \$250,000 per project, the interest rate usually 6 per cent.

* * *


If there was any question about it, the AFL-CIO as a joint organization favors national compulsory health insurance, as each group did before the merger. The AFL-CIO stand was taken officially for the unions by Nelson Cruikshank in testimony before the House Ways and Means Committee on a bill for increased payments for the medical care of public relief recipients.



save the cigarette for later...

local anesthetic to take hold

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—you waited, patient waited, nurse

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ORGANIZATION

PROGRAM

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CANCER CONFERENCE

JULY 11 AND 12—DENVER

Sponsored by Colorado State Medical Society
and Colorado Division of the American
Cancer Society

No Registration Fee

Shirley-Savoy Hotel

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11

Morning Session

9:00—Introduction—John S. Bouslog,
M.D., Chairman.

9:10—Address of Welcome—V. V. Ander-
son, M.D., President, Colorado Divi-
sion, American Cancer Society, and
Robert T. Porter, M.D., President,
Colorado State Medical Society.

9:30—Symposium—Cancer of the Breast.
Moderator, Mordant E. Peck, M.D.

Panel Members: Grant Sanger, M.D.;
Eugene P. Pendergrass, M.D.;
Charles Huggins, M.D.; Dwight H.
Murray, M.D.; Lauren V. Ackerman,
M.D.

12:00—Round Table Luncheon.

Presiding: Frederick H. Brandenburg,
M.D.

1:45— **Afternoon Session**

Presiding: Harold T. Low, M.D.,
Pueblo.

2:00—"Evaluation of Triple Biopsy for
Breast Carcinoma"—Grant Sanger,
M.D.

2:30—"The Pathological Findings in Leuke-
mia in Children Based on 49 Necrop-
sies"—John R. Schenken, M.D.

3:00—"Early Small Lesions of the Rectum"
—George V. Brindley, M.D.

3:30—"Cancer of the Prostate"—Charles
Huggins, M.D.

Evening

Banquet, Green Gables Country Club

6:30—Social Hour.

7:00—Dinner.

Speaker, Dwight H. Murray, M.D.
—"A General Practitioner Looks at
Hospital Accreditation."

THURSDAY, JULY 12

Morning Session

9:30—Symposium—Lymphomas and Leu-
kemias.

Moderator: John H. Amesse, M.D.,
Panel Members: John R. Schenken,
M.D.; Eugene P. Pendergrass, M.D.;
George V. Brindley, M.D.; Charles
L. Dunham, M.D.

12:00—Round Table Luncheon.
Presiding: Charley J. Smyth, M.D.

1:45— **Afternoon Session**

Presiding: John H. Darst, M.D.

2:00—"Cancer of the Thyroid, Its Patho-
logic Evaluation and Treatment"—
Lauren V. Ackerman, M.D.

2:30—"The Impact of Atomic Energy Ac-
tivities on Medicine and Medical Re-
search"—Charles L. Dunham, M.D.

3:30—Adjourn.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MEDICAL JOURNAL

Guest Speakers



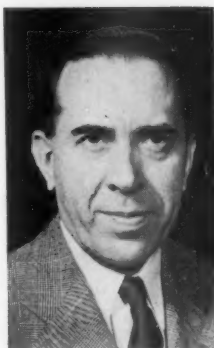
DWIGHT H. MURRAY,
M.D.
Napa, California
1956-1957 President
American Medical Assn.



GRANT SANGER, M.D.
New York, N.Y.
Assistant Professor of
Clinical Surgery,
Columbia University
College of Physicians



CHARLES HUGGINS, M.D.
Chicago, Illinois
Ben May Laboratory
for Cancer Research



LAUREN V. ACKERMAN,
M.D.
St. Louis, Missouri
Department of Surgery
School of Medicine
Washington University



EUGENE PENDERGRASS,
M.D.
Philadelphia, Penn.
Professor of Radiology
School of Medicine
Univ. of Pennsylvania



GEORGE V. BRINDLEY,
M.D.
Temple, Texas
President American
Cancer Society

CHARLES L. DUNHAM,
M.D.
Washington, D. C.
Director, Division of
Biology and Medicine
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Wyoming



PROGRAM

FIFTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING WYOMING STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY

Jackson Lake Lodge—Moran, Wyoming

June 28, 29, 30—July 1, 1956

Headquarters—Jackson Lake Lodge

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

Afternoon

- 2:00—Council Meeting.
- 3:00-5:30—Registration.
- 5:30-6:30—President's Reception (Cocktails; Introduction of Guest Speakers).

Evening

- 6:30—Dinner (Informal).
- 8:00—Smoker for Men.
- 8:00—Mixer for Wives.
- 8:00—Movie—"The Sea Around Us"—Courtesy of RKO Radio Pictures, Inc., and Fox Intermountain Theatres.

FRIDAY, JUNE 29

Morning

Presiding: Robert T. Porter, M.D.
Greeley, Colorado
President, Colorado State Medical Society

- 8:30—"Present Day Therapy for Shock of Surgical Patients"—John Lundy, M.D., Head of the Section on Anesthesia, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota.
- 9:00—"Vascular Trauma and Traumatic Aspects of Hematuria"—Ben Eisman M.D., Chief of Surgical Service, VA Hospital, and Associate Profes-

sor of Surgery, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Denver.

- 9:30—"Treatment of Fractures of Lower Leg"—Roger Anderson, M.D., Senior Consultant in Orthopedics, University of Washington Medical School, Seattle.
- 10:00—Intermission.
- 10:30—"Early Treatment of Maxillofacial Injuries"—Jerome Hilger, M.D., Clinical Associate Professor of Otolaryngology, Department of Medicine, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.
- 11:00—"Use of Adrenocortical Hormones as Anti-Inflammatory Agents"—Thomas F. Dougherty, Ph.D., Professor and Head of Department of Anatomy, University of Utah College of Medicine, Salt Lake City.
- 11:30—"Diagnosis of Common Hand Injuries"—Paul J. Preston, M.D., Orthopedic Service, Oak Knoll Naval Hospital, Oakland.

Afternoon

- 12:30-1:30—Lunch and Question and Answer Period.
- 2:30—House of Delegates Meeting.

Evening

- 6:00—Cocktails.
- 7:00—Banquet—Elmer Hess, M.D., Speaker; 1955-56 President, American Medical Association.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

Morning

Presiding: Stuart W. Adler, M.D.,
Albuquerque; President, New Mexico
Medical Society

- 8:30—"Ovarian Tumors in Women Under Forty"—H. S. Morgan, M.D., Clinical Associate Professor, University of Nebraska College of Medicine, Lincoln.
- 9:00—"Anesthesia for the General Practitioner"—John Lundy, M.D.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MEDICAL JOURNAL

- 9:30—"Importance and Interpretation of Routine Blood Counts"—Matthew Block, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Denver.
- 10:00—"Treatment of Rheumatoid Arthritis"—Russell L. Cecil, M.D., Professor of Clinical Medicine Emeritus, Cornell University Medical College, New York City.
- 10:30—Intermission.
- 11:00—"Common Congenital Heart Lesions in Children—Diagnosis and Treatment"—S. Gilbert Blount, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine and Director, Cardiovascular Pulmonary Laboratory, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Denver.
- 11:30—"Vertigo"—Jerome Hilger, M.D.
- 12:00—"Function of University of Wyoming in Medical Education"—L. Floyd Clarke, Ph.D., Head, Department of Zoology and Physiology, University of Wyoming, Cheyenne.

Afternoon

- 12:45—Lunch and Question and Answer Period.
- 2:00—Pfizer Fishing Derby (wives and kiddies invited).

Evening

- 7:00—Pfizer Buffet Supper, Dancing and Square Dancing.

SUNDAY, JULY 1

Morning

Presiding: J. S. Hellewell, M.D.
Evanston, Wyoming
President-Elect, Wyoming State Medical Society

- 8:30—"Physiology of Iron in Relation to Therapy With Iron"—Matthew H. Block, M.D.
- 9:00—"Management of Breech Presentations"—Harold S. Morgan, M.D.
- 9:30—"Diagnosis of Relative Adrenocortical Insufficiency"—Thomas F. Dougherty, Ph.D.

- 10:00—Intermission.
- 10:30—"Pulmonary and Extra Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Children"—Sidney H. Dressler, M.D., Medical Director of the National Jewish Hospital, Denver.
- 11:00—"Treatment of Osteoarthritis"—Russell L. Cecil, M.D.
- 11:30—"Management of Low Back Ache"—Roger Anderson, M.D.
- 12:00—"A Practical Outline in the Treatment of Alcoholics"—James W. Sampson, M.D., Sheridan.

Afternoon

- 12:30—Lunch and Question and Answer Period.
- 1:45—House of Delegates Meeting.

PROGRAM

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Thursday, June 28

Afternoon

- 2:30—Registration.
- 5:30—President's Reception and Cocktail Party.
- 6:30—Dinner, followed by Women's Mixer.

Friday, June 29

Morning

- 9:30-11:00—Coffee—Northwest Medical Auxiliary, Hostesses.
- 10:00—Executive Board Meeting.
No Planned Luncheon.

Afternoon

- 2:00—General Meeting of Auxiliary.

Evening

- 6:00—Cocktails.
- 7:00—Banquet—Orchestra—Entertainment.

Saturday, June 30

- 12:00—Noon Luncheon—Address by Mrs. Robert Flanders, Manchester, N. H., 1956-57 President, Woman's Auxiliary to American Medical Association.
- 4:00—Past Convention Board Meeting.
- 7:00—Pfizer Dinner—Informal Evening.

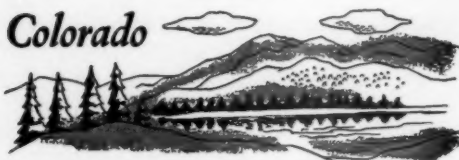
Obituary

DR. JAMES G. STEWART DIES

Dr. James G. Stewart, 74, of Sheridan, died on April 30, 1956.

Born at West Union, Iowa, he graduated from Northwestern University Medical School in 1907. In 1908 he located at Grover, Colorado, and remained there until 1925, when he was licensed in Wyoming and moved to Sheridan. Dr. Stewart was a general practitioner and a member of his constituent medical organizations. He was preceded in death by his wife in 1947.

Colorado



Component Societies

LARIMER COUNTY

Dr. Mason Morfit, Denver, discussed Cancer of the Thyroid at the regular dinner meeting held in Loveland on Wednesday, May 2. The next meeting is scheduled to be held in Estes Park, June 6.

W. S. ABBEY, Secretary.

PROWERS COUNTY

The regular meeting of the Prowers County Medical Society was held May 9 in Lamar. Drs.

George R. Buck, President-Elect; Lawrence D. Buchanan, Trustee, and Lloyd K. Wright, Comprehensive Care Committee, were the guests. After dinner these doctors discussed Society finances, policies and other matters of general interest.

EDWIN C. LIKES, Secretary.

Obituaries

ISALAH KNOTT

Dr. Knott died April 1, 1956. He was born in 1873 and received his M.D. from Missouri Medical College, St. Louis. Together with his brother, Dr. A. W. Knott, he moved to Montrose, Colorado, from Missouri over fifty years ago. He had practiced in Montrose continuously since that time, though for the last three years he did not maintain an office.

Dr. Knott's family has contributed a good many medical practitioners—his father, a sister and a brother (Dr. A. W. Knott of Montrose, deceased), a nephew, and the three sons of his nephew.

Dr. Isaiah Knott's wife died about fifteen years ago in Montrose. Survivors are his two sons and two daughters.

CHARLES O. GIESE

Dr. Charles O. Giese passed away April 24, 1956, in Colorado Springs. He was born in California in 1875 and received his medical education at St. Louis University School of Medicine. He had been located in Nebraska prior to establishing his practice in Colorado in 1910. Dr. Giese was President of the Colorado Tuberculosis Association during 1935-36.



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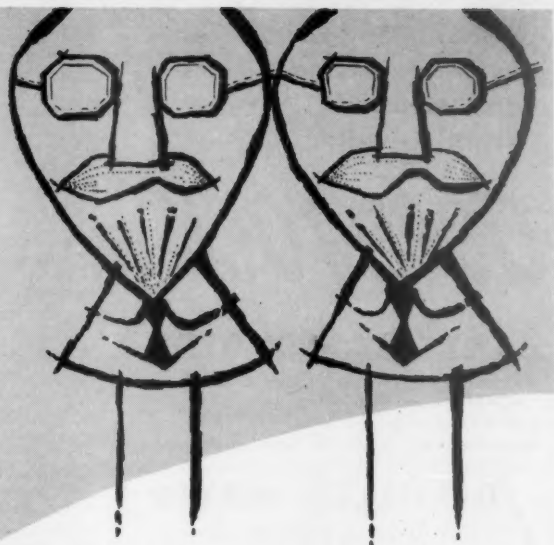
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GYNECOLOGY AND OBSTETRICS—Obstetrics and Gynecology, Three Weeks, October 22. Office and Operative Gynecology, Two Weeks, September 17. Vaginal Approach to Pelvic Surgery, One Week, September 10.

MEDICINE—Electrocardiography and Heart Disease, Two-Week Basic Course, July 9. Internal Medicine, Two Weeks, September 24. Gastroscopy and Gastroenterology, Two Weeks, September 10. Gastroenterology, Two Weeks, October 22. Dermatology, Two Weeks, October 15.

RADIOLOGY—Diagnostic X-Ray, Two Weeks, September 17. Clinical Uses of Radioisotopes, Two Weeks, October 8.

UROLOGY—Two-Week Course October 8. Cystoscopy, Ten Days, by appointment.

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ALBERT J. ARGALL

Dr. Argall died May 1, 1956, in St. Joseph's Hospital, Denver. He was born in England May 1, 1886, and came to the United States with his family in 1888. He was educated in Colorado, graduating from the University of Colorado Medical School in 1910. He then did graduate work for his specialty at Johns Hopkins University.

After serving in the Navy during World War I, Dr. Argall returned to Denver in 1921 to take up his practice in eye, ear, nose and throat. He practiced for thirty-five years, until his death. He was a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, a member of state and local medical societies, and a member of the Colorado Otolaryngological Society.

Survivors are his widow, Mabel, two daughters and two grandchildren.

NATHAN B. NEWCOMER

Word was received in Denver Saturday, May 5, of the death in San Diego, California, of Dr. Nathan B. Newcomer, retired Denver physician.

Friends said Dr. Newcomer died unexpectedly Saturday noon after suffering a stroke in the Southern California city.

Both Dr. Newcomer and his wife, Elizabeth, were widely known practicing radiologists in Denver before their retirement in 1950. Mrs. Newcomer died in 1952.

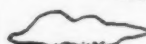
Born in Illinois, Dr. Newcomer received his medical degree from the old Denver and Gross Medical College. He married Dr. Elizabeth Horneman and the couple first practiced in the rugged country of Northern Wyoming.

They returned to Denver in 1925 to specialize in radiology.

Dr. Newcomer was active in the Denver County Medical Society, the Colorado State Medical Society, American Medical Association, and Radiological Society of North America.

Surviving are a son, Nathan F. Newcomer of Palo Alto, California, with whom he made his home in recent years; a brother, Joe Newcomer, of Checotah, Oklahoma, and a nephew, Francis Flemmer, of Trinidad.

Utah



News Briefs

WISLEY WINS UTAH MEDICAL MERIT PLAQUE

Otto A. Wiesley, Chairman of the Utah Industrial Commission, received the third annual award of merit of the Utah State Medical Association for his "outstanding record in administration of the workmen's compensation and industrial disease laws."

A bronze plaque presented to him at a dinner in the Fort Douglas Club cited Mr. Wiesley's contributions to medical care, and his knowledge

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of medical problems, which have assisted materially in helping to raise the standard of medicine in Utah, resulting in better medical care for the people of the state. The annual award of merit of the U.S.M.A. was presented in 1954 to the Salt Lake Tribune and William C. Patrick, medical editor, and the second to Gov. J. Bracken Lee.

Obituary

LEONARD H. TABOROFF

Leonard H. Taboroff, M.D., died April 16, 1956, in Honolulu, T. H.

Dr. Taboroff, who was associate professor of psychiatry at the University of Utah and Director of Utah Child Guidance Center, was vacationing with his wife and two daughters in Hawaii at the time of his death.

A native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, he came to Salt Lake City as director of the center in August, 1949. He became associate professor of psychiatry last year.

Dr. Taboroff received his Bachelor of Science degree from Franklin Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and his M.D. from Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia.

He was visiting psychiatrist at Primary Children's Hospital, attending psychiatrist at the Salt Lake Veterans' Hospitals, and psychiatric consultant for the Family Service Society. Many of his writings on child psychiatric problems have appeared in scientific publications.


Last year Dr. Taboroff was President of Inter-

mountain Psychiatric Association and, at the time of his death, was a counselor of American Academy of Child Psychiatry and chairman of the Committee on Mental Health, Utah State Medical Association.

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Karl O. Nielson joined the Utah State Medical Association and Utah County Medical Society in 1938. With hearts full of sorrow and with a recognition to Him who knows all things and does all things for the best, the Utah State Medical Association and the Utah County Medical Society pause to share its grief and acknowledge the passing of our beloved friend and member, Dr. Karl O. Nielson. With a personality full of charm and kindness, he added to the happiness of all with whom he came in contact and we are deeply conscious of the fact that his passing came as a severe loss to his family, his societies, his community and state and his countless friends, and we resolve to acknowledge the hand of the Lord and say with Him, "Thy will be done," and let it be said that the officers and members of the Utah State Medical Association and the Utah County Medical Society extend Mrs. Nielson and her family their sincere sympathy and order that this testimony be entered upon the official records of these Societies, signed and passed this 14th day of May, 1956, in Provo, Utah.

R. O. PORTER, President,
Utah State Medical Association;
C. M. SMITH, President,
Utah County Medical Society;
HAROLD BOWMAN,
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*Mayer, J. H., and Hughes, W. M.:
J. Chron. Dis. 2:678, 1955.

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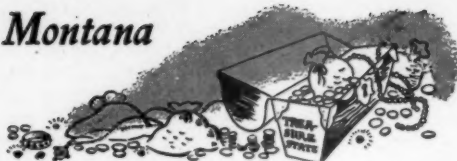
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1. Johnston, T. G., and Cazort, A. G.: J. Allergy 27:90, 1956. 2. Schwartz, E.: New York J. Med. 56:570, 1956. 3. Schiller, I. W., et al.: J. Allergy 27:96, 1956.

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News Briefs

NINTH ANNUAL INTERIM SESSION

Montana Medical Association's Ninth Annual Interim Session was held March 16 and 17 in Helena. M. Shelby Jared, M.D., Medical Director of the King County Medical Service Bureau

and immediate Past President of the Washington State Medical Association, gave an address at the banquet entitled, "The Physician, the Government and Prepayment."

Past officers and Trustees of Montana Physicians' Service-Blue Shield who were honored at this banquet included M. A. Shillington, M.D., Paul L. Eneboe, M.D., H. D. Huggins, M.D., J. C. Shields, M.D., W. F. Hamilton, M.D., T. L. Hawkins, M.D., Mr. Noel Carrico, Mr. Eugene Burris, W. A. Treat, M.D., L. W. Brewer, M.D., F. L. McPhail, M.D., Otto G. Klein, M.D., H. T. Caraway, M.D., H. O. Drew, M.D., F. D. Hurd, MD, Mr. Jack Toole M. O. Burns, M.D., and Mr. C. W. Groth.



NINTH ANNUAL INTERIM SESSION, MONTANA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, MARCH 16 AND 17

Reading left to right: Edward S. Murphy, M.D., Missoula, President-Elect of the Montana Medical Association; Mrs. A. E. Ritt, President of the Montana Medical Association Auxiliary; George W. Setzer, M.D., President of the Montana Medical Association; H. W. Fuller, M.D., President of Montana Physicians' Service; Dr. Jared; The Honorable J. Hugo Aronson, Governor of Montana; J. J. McCabe, M.D., Secretary of the Montana Physicians' Service, and Father John J. O'Connor of Helena.

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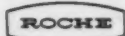
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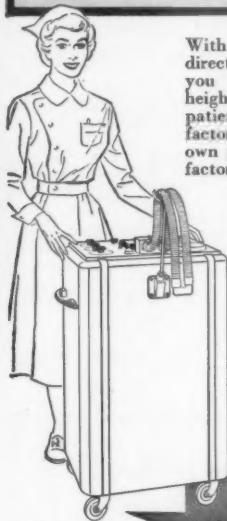
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The Book Corner



New Books Received

New books received are acknowledged in this section. From these, selections will be made for reviews in the interests of the readers. Books here listed will be available for lending from the Denver Medical Library soon after publication.

Diagnosis and Treatment of Vascular Disorders: By S. S. Samuels. Published by Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore, 1956. Price: \$16.00.

A Course in Practical Therapeutics: By M. E. Reh-fuss. Published by Williams & Wilkins, Baltimore, 1956. Price: \$15.00.

Diseases of the Chest: By H. C. Hinshaw and L. H. Garland. Published by Saunders, Philadelphia, 1956. Price: \$15.00.

A Modern Pilgrim's Progress for Diabetics: By G. G. Duncan. Published by Saunders, Philadelphia, 1956. Price: \$2.50.

The Neuroses in Clinical Practice: By H. P. Laughlin. Published by Saunders, Philadelphia, 1956. Price: \$12.50.

The Truth About Cancer: By Charles S. Cameron. Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N. J., 1956. Price: \$4.95.

Therapy of Fungus Diseases: By Thomas H. Sternberg and Victor D. Newcomer. Little, Brown & Co., Boston, 1955. Price: \$7.50.

Bellevue Is My Home: By Salvatore R. Cutolo. Curtis Pub. Co., Phila., 1955. Price: \$4.00.

Laboratory Tests in Common Use: By Solomon Garb. Springer, New York, 1956. Price: \$2.00.

Modern Treatment Yearbook, 1956: Edited by Sir Cecil Wakeley. Printed for the Medical Press by Bailliere, Tyndall & Cox, London, 1956. Price: \$6.00.

Gynecologic Cancer: By James A. Corscaden, Ph.B., M.D. 2nd edition. Williams & Wilkins, 1956. Price: \$10.00.

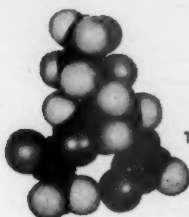
A Handbook of Medical Hypnosis: By Gordon Ambrose and George Newbold. Bailliere, Tyndall & Cox, London, 1956. Price: \$5.00.

Textbook of Medical Physiology: By Arthur C. Guyton, M.D. W. B. Saunders Co., Phila., 1956. Price: \$13.50.

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Electrocardiography: Fundamentals and Clinical Application: By Louis Wolff, M.D. 2nd edition. W. B. Saunders Co., Phila., 1956. Price: \$7.00.

Clinical Recognition and Management of Disturbances of Body Fluids: By John H. Bland, M.D. 2nd edition. W. B. Saunders Co., Phila., 1956. Price: \$11.50.

Book Reviews

The Interpretation of the Unipolar Electrocardiogram: By Gordon A. Myers. St. Louis, C. V. Mosby Co., 1956. 164 pages.

Those who have known about the manual that Dr. Gordon Myers used in his course in electrocardiography will be happy that it is now generally available. It is an excellent manual and a must for anybody reading electrocardiograms. It is not a substitute for a text on electrocardiography and without the Myers' personality to make it live, it can be difficult reading, or at least difficult "remembering." It is the reviewer's impression that many of the explanations and concepts in the manual are teleological, and in some instances basic concepts are somewhat manhandled. This does not detract from the practical value of the presented material.

A. RAVIN, M.D.

Hypothermic Anesthesia: By Robert W. Virtue. Charles C. Thomas, 1955. 62 pages.

Dr. Virtue is well qualified to write on this subject. He has been engaged in research and its clinical application for some time now and has administered this type anesthesia to a relatively large number of patients.

This work or essay deals with early observation and uses of the method. Then quite extensively he discusses recent observations of its physiologic effects on patients. The latter chapters deal with present thought on the clinical application of the method and technic of usage.

Finally, he outlines how much is not known or incompletely known of the method.

For anyone contemplating the use of hypothermic anesthesia, this monograph is a must. For anyone engaged in the practice of anesthesiology it is fascinating reading.

JOHN C. McAFEE, M.D.

The Physician and His Practice: By Joseph Garland, M.D. Boston, Little, Brown & Co., 1954. 270 pages.

"The Physician and His Practice" has been planned as a source book of information regarding his career rather than as a detailed guide for the young doctor, who, his internship, residency, or military service completed, contemplates the fascinating fields that his training has laid open to him. It is a book that practitioners of long standing may also find of value as they review their methods of practice, their material equipment, and the resources of the communities in which they live and work.

A proper emphasis is placed on the character and personality of the physician and the standards that are expected of him—and his wife—in relation to the two important circles in which they move: the intimate family circle and the larger community one. The fields that medicine now encompasses are here defined, with discussions of the various types of activities that they offer, the necessity of hospital affiliations, the place of organization and organizations in the profession, and the physician's need for continued study—for gaining knowledge and for imparting it.

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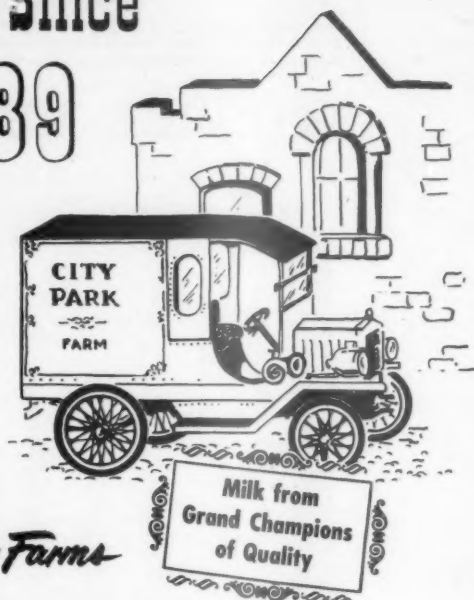
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1. Cronheim, G., and Toekes, I. M.: Comparison of Sedative Properties of Single Alkaloids of Rauwolfia and Their Mixtures, Meet. Am. Soc. Pharmacol. & Exper. Therap., Iowa City, Iowa, Sept. 5, 1955.
2. Moyer, J. H.; Dennis, E., and Ford, R.: Drug Therapy (Rauwolfia) of Hypertension. II. A Comparative Study of Different Extracts of Rauwolfia When Each Is Used Alone (Orally) for Therapy of Ambulatory Patients with Hypertension, A.M.A. Arch. Int. Med. 96:530 (Oct.) 1955.


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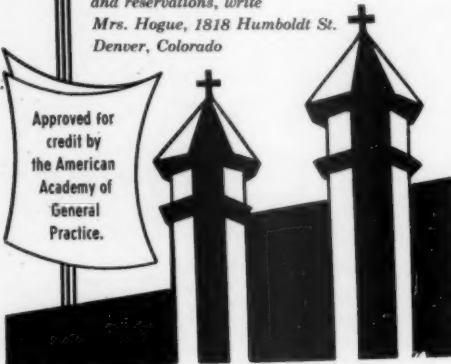
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LLOYD O. SHIELDS, M.D.

Diseases of the Chest: By H. Corwin Hinshaw and L. Henry Garland, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, W. B. Saunders Co., 1956.

This is an excellent presentation of practically the whole gamut of pulmonary disease. It is organized well with proportionally more attention devoted to the more frequently encountered conditions. It is profusely illustrated with roentgenograms which are reproduced more clearly than usual.

Of first importance is the fact that the entire volume conveys thoroughly modern concepts of pathological conditions, making it a very valuable text for students and a ready reference for the internist or surgeon interested in chest disease.

WILLIAM B. CONDON, M.D.

Proctologic Anatomy: By R. V. Gorsch, M.D.

This is the second of Dr. Gorsch's books on the anus, rectum, and sigmoid colon, the first being published as "Perineal Pelvis Anatomy." Dr. Gorsch is probably the foremost anatomist in this field, which combined with his experience in the actual practice of proctology, and in the post-graduate teaching field, makes his book highly reliable. The purpose of the second edition was to consolidate in one volume the modern and generally accepted concepts of the pelvis, pelvic floor, anorectal musculature, rectum and sigmoid, in complete detail. While detailed, it is still presented in understandable sequence, helped by the excellent and profuse illustrations and photographs, and is a marked improvement over the first edition.

C. B. WILLS, M.D.

Hypnotic Suggestion: By S. J. Van Pelt. Philosophical Library, New York, 1956. Price: \$2.75.

S. J. Van Pelt's thesis is a handy little book, which offers an explanation of the hypnotic process, a theory about the origin of psychoneurosis and describes a working plan for hypnotherapy of psychoneurosis. In hypnosis, he says, all "units" of mind power are channeled into one direction without leaving any mind power to take notice of other things. Success or failure of hypnosis depends on ability to concentrate into one direction.

The theory about the origin of psychoneurosis is based on an original incident which, though forgotten, is starting a vicious circle of tension-unpleasant symptoms—more fear—more symptoms—tension.

The author's method of treatment consists of reaching a light hypnotic stage and giving the patient a post-hypnotic suggestion to bring up the incident which started his vicious circle. Relaxation by hypnosis, then realization of causes of trouble, will bring about re-education—at which therapy is aimed.

Apparently, the author is quite successful with his method and cuts down on time necessary to dig out deep-seated fears. It remains to be seen how it works in the hands of other practitioners. The method seems to be attractive. The thesis is short and clear, not sensational in form, description and promises. Worth trying.

LESLIE GRAY, M.D.

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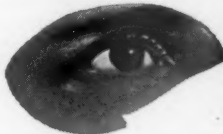
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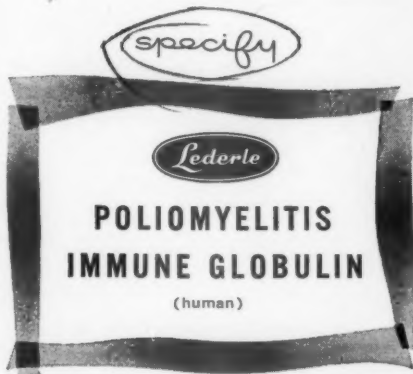
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Handbook of Toxicology, Volume I: By W. S. Spector, ed. 408 pp. W. B. Saunders, Philadelphia, 1956. Price: \$7.00.

This is an extensive compilation in tabular form covering the acute toxicities of a large number of solids, liquids and gases for laboratory animals. The book is the first of a series to be prepared under the direction of the Committee on the Handbook of Biological Data, Division of Biology and Agriculture, The National Academy of Sciences, and The National Research Council.

The principal contributor is Wolfgang F. von Oettingen, M.D., Ph.D., Chief Toxicologist of the National Institute of Health, Bethesda, who has an international reputation and has written many papers, monographs, and books on toxicology and related topics. There are twenty-eight reviewers, all of whom are well known in the field of pharmacology and toxicology.

This volume presents tabular data on the acute toxicity of various substances for several species of commonly used laboratory animals as determined by oral or parenteral administration or inhalation of fatal doses. Material included is of basic importance and from reliable sources. Many substances and their properties listed elsewhere also may be found herein. For ready reference in the tables opposite the drug name is given the species of animal(s), route of administration, dose (LD or LD₅₀, MLD, etc.) in mg./Kg, dosage range, vehicle or solvent, time of death and references to the original literature where more details may be found.

The book is of large size to accommodate the tabular material. The printing is excellent. There are no illustrations. Compounds listed in the

tables may be found in the index by a serial number as well as by chemical name.

The handbook should be especially useful to specialists in pharmacology and toxicology. It represents the most complete and up to date book of this type known to the reviewer. Physicians will seldom have need for information of the type contained in this volume.

RICHARD W. WHITEHEAD, M.D.

Electrocardiography: By E. Grey Dimond. 261 pp. C. V. Mosby Co., St. Louis, 1954. Price: \$14.00.

In his book, "Electrocardiography," E. Grey Dimond accomplishes in admirable fashion his purported intent of carrying the general practitioner and medical student from a totally uninitiated stage to a fairly sophisticated level. The format of the book is well developed, and the print as well as the illustrations are reproduced with clarity. The development and subsequent use of vector analysis in illustrating features of the electrocardiograms is a particularly refreshing approach when contrasted with the more arbitrary "pattern" analysis. References are given when they are mentioned, thus eliminating frequent hunting for the end of the chapter. Another excellent feature is the section on types of direct writing machines and the technic of making them work properly.

All in all, the book is a worthwhile addition to any basic library on electrocardiography, and particularly useful to those whose primary interest does not lie with cardiology, but who do wish a precise, understandable grounding and reference text for the interpretation of their own electrocardiograms.

G. D. W.

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H.R. 2092 (Jenkins-Keogh) is a bill that would permit self-employed people to put as much as \$5,000 per year into privately managed retirement funds, up to a total of \$100,000, without paying tax upon the money until the time came when they wished to draw the money out again to use for living expenses.

Every doctor's wife and every self-employed individual should understand this proposal and should urge Congressmen to support it. Do you wish to manage your own life, or do you want the government's bureaucrats to do it for you? If doctors are given a chance to provide for their old-age security in such a fashion as is outlined in this bill, there will be no excuse for anyone's continuing to urge that they be compelled to undergo Social Security taxation.

Professional groups support this legislation, and as of now, the administration supports it too, though it has shown signs of being willing to substitute a proposal that would compel physicians' entrance into the Social Security system.—J. of the Iowa State Medical Society.

THE FIGHT AGAINST MENTAL ILLNESS

The year 1955 may well go down in history as a memorable milestone in the fight against mental illness. Certainly the past few years have seen a remarkable upsurge in interest and attention paid to various psychiatric illnesses and it would appear that this area of human suffering has finally become recognized in its true light.

Sigmund Freud began his epochal researches during the last quarter of the past century. Since then it has become increasingly clear that the majority of personality problems have their origins in the formative years of childhood. This means that if we are to win the fight against emotional illness we must provide our children with increasingly improved emotional environments so that they will grow into more mature individuals capable of doing an even better job with their own children.—Stuart M. Finch, M.D., in Temple University Medical Center Bulletin.

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*Fishberg, A. M.: Hypertension and Nephritis, ed. 5, Philadelphia, Lea & Febiger, 1954, pp. 177-178.

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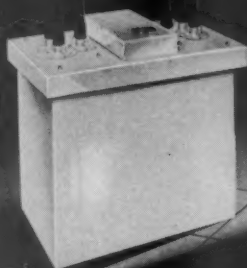
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NEXT ANNUAL SESSION: SEPTEMBER 5-8, 1956; STANLEY HOTEL, ESTES PARK

OFFICERS, 1955-1956

Terms of Officers and Committeemen expire at the Annual Session in the year indicated. Where no year is indicated the term is for one year only and expires at the 1956 Annual Session.

President: Robert T. Porter, Greeley.

President-Elect: George R. Buck, Denver.

Vice President: Leo W. Lloyd, Durango.

Constitutional Secretary (three years): James M. Perkins, Denver, 1957.

Treasurer (three years): William C. Service, Colorado Springs, 1956.

Additional Trustees (three years): C. Walter Metz, Denver, 1956; Lawrence D. Buchanan, Wray, 1957; Thomas K. Mahan, Grand Junction, 1958; Terry J. Gromer, Denver, 1958.

(The above nine officers compose the Board of Trustees of which Dr. Porter is Chairman and Dr. Lloyd is Vice Chairman for the 1955-1956 year.)

Board of Councilors (three years): District No. 1: Osgood S. Philpott, Denver, 1957; District No. 2: Roger G. Howlett, Golden, 1956; District No. 3: Harry C. Bryan, Colorado Springs, 1958; District No. 4: Paul H. Hildebrand, Brush, 1957; District No. 5: John D. Gillaspie, Boulder, 1957; Vice Chairman: District No. 6: Harvey M. Tupper, Grand Junction, 1958; District No. 7: Charles L. Mason, Durango, 1958; District No.

8: Herman W. Roth, Chairman, Monte Vista, 1956; District No. 9: Scott A. Gale, Pueblo, 1956.

Board of Supervisors (two years): William N. Baker, Chairman, Pueblo, 1957; Duane F. Hartsborn, Vice Chairman, Ft. Collins, 1957; Sam W. Downing, Secretary, Denver, 1956; J. Alan Shand, La Junta, 1956; George G. Balderston, Montrose, 1956; Lester L. Williams, Colorado Springs, 1956; Robert A. Hoover, Salida, 1956; Harold E. Raymond, Greeley, 1956; Lawrence W. Holden, Boulder, 1957; Robert C. Lewis, Jr., Glenwood Springs, 1957; Kenneth H. Beebe, Sterling, 1957; James S. Orr, Fruita, 1957.

Delegates to American Medical Association (two calendar years): Kenneth C. Sawyer, Denver, 1956; (Alternate, Irvin E. Hendryson, Denver, 1956); E. H. Munro, Grand Junction, 1957; (Alternate, Harlan E. McClure, Lamar, 1957).

Foundation Advocate: Walter W. King, Denver.

House of Delegates: Speaker, William B. Condon, Denver; Vice Speaker, Carl W. Swarts, Pueblo.

Executive Office Staff: Mr. Harvey T. Sethman, Executive Secretary; Mrs. Geraldine A. Blackburn, Executive Assistant; Mr. John W. Pompelli, Executive Assistant; 835 Republic Building, Denver 2, Colo.; Telephone AComa 2-0547.

General Counsel: Mr. J. Peter Nordlund, Attorney-at-Law, Denver.

MONTANA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

NEXT ANNUAL SESSION: SEPTEMBER 13-15; GREAT FALLS.

OFFICERS, 1955-1956

Terms of Officers and Committees expire at the Annual Session in the year indicated. Where no year is indicated, the term is for one year only and expires at the 1956 Annual Session.

President: George W. Setzer, Malta.

President-Elect: Edward S. Murphy, Missoula.

Vice President: John A. Layne, Great Falls.

Secretary-Treasurer: Theodore R. Vye, Billings.

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer: Park W. Willis, Jr., Hamilton.

Executive Secretary: Mr. L. R. Hegland, P. O. Box 1692, Office Telephone, 9-2585, Billings.

Delegate to the American Medical Association: Raymond F. Peterson, Butte.

Alternate Delegate to the American Medical Association: Paul J. Gans, Lewiston.

NEW MEXICO MEDICAL SOCIETY

OFFICERS, 1956-1957

Terms of officers expire at the Annual Session in the year indicated. Where no year or term is indicated, the term is for one year only and expires at the 1957 Annual Session.

President: Stuart W. Adler, Albuquerque.

President-Elect: Samuel R. Ziegler, Espanola.

Vice President: James C. Sedgwick, Las Cruces.

Secretary-Treasurer: Lewis M. Overton, Albuquerque.

Executive Secretary: Mr. Ralph E. Marshall, 223-24 First National Bank Building, Albuquerque; telephone 2-2102.

Immediate Past President: Earl L. Malone, Roswell.

Councillors (three years): W. E. Badger, Hobbs, 1957; W. D. Dabbs, Clovis, 1957; W. O. Connor, Jr., Albuquerque, 1958; L. L. Daviet, Las Cruces, 1958; Aaron Margulis, Santa Fe, 1959; Junius A. Evans, Las Vegas, 1959.

Delegate to American Medical Association (two years): H. L. January, Albuquerque, 1958; Alternate: Earl L. Malone, Roswell, 1958.

Board of Supervisors: A. J. Jensen, Hobbs, Chairman, 1957; W. J. Hosley, Deming, Secretary, 1957; Milton Fienstein, Jr., Raton, 1957; George W. Prothro, Clovis, 1957; A. D. Maddox, Las Cruces, 1958; G. A. Slusser, Artesia, 1958; Louis Levin, Belen, 1958; Jack Dillahun, Albuquerque, 1958.

New Mexico Physicians Service: H. M. Mortimer, Las Vegas, 1957; H. L. January, Albuquerque, 1957; Fred Harold, Albuquerque, 1957; L. L. Daviet, Las Cruces, 1957; O. C. Taylor, Jr., Artesia, 1957; C. S. Stone, Hobbs, 1957; R. P. Beaudette, Raton, 1958; R. V. Seligman, Albuquerque, 1958; Wendell Peacock, Farmington, 1958; Omar Legant, Albuquerque, 1958; Allen Haynes, Clovis, 1959; W. L. Minton, Lovington, 1959; J. P. Turner, Carrizozo, 1959; U. S. Marshall, Roswell, 1959; J. W. Hillsman, Carlsbad, 1959; Executive Director, Mr. L. J. LeGrave, 212 Insurance Building, Albuquerque, Phone 3-3188.

THE UTAH STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS, 1955-1956

President: R. O. Porter, Logan.

President-Elect: James Z. Davis, Salt Lake.

Past-President: Charles Ruggeri, Jr., Salt Lake.

Honorary President: John Z. Brown, Sr., Salt Lake.

Secretary: Donald M. Moore, Ogden.

Executive Secretary: Mr. Harold Bowman, Salt Lake.

Treasurer: Alan P. Macfarlane, Salt Lake.

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Councillor, Cache Valley Medical Society: C. C. Randall, Logan.

Councillor, Carbon County Medical Society: L. H. Merrill, Hiawatha.

Councillor, Central Utah Medical Society: John B. Cluff, Richfield.

Councillor, Salt Lake County Medical Society: James F. Orme, Salt Lake.

Councillor, Southern Utah Medical Society: R. O. Williams, Cedar City.

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Councillor, Utah County Medical Society: R. E. Jorgensen, Provo.

Councillor, Weber County Medical Society: I. Bruce McQuarrie, Ogden.

Delegate to A.M.A., 1955-1957: George M. Flister, Ogden.

Alternate Delegate to A.M.A., 1955-1956: Elliot Snow, Salt Lake.

Editor of the Utah Section of the Rocky Mountain Medical Journal, 1957: R. P. Middleton, Salt Lake.

THE WYOMING STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY

NEXT ANNUAL MEETING: JUNE 29, 30 AND JULY 1, 1956; JACKSON LAKE LODGE, MORAN

OFFICERS, 1955-1956

President: R. I. Williams, Cheyenne.
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 Vice President: H. B. Anderson, Casper.
 Secretary: Benjamin Giltitz, Thermopolis.
 Treasurer: C. D. Anton, Sheridan.

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Alternate Delegate to A.M.A.: Albert Sudman, Green River.

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Delegates: Harley E. Rice, Porter Sanitarium and Hospital, Denver; Henry H. Hill, Alternate, Weld County General Hospital, Greeley.

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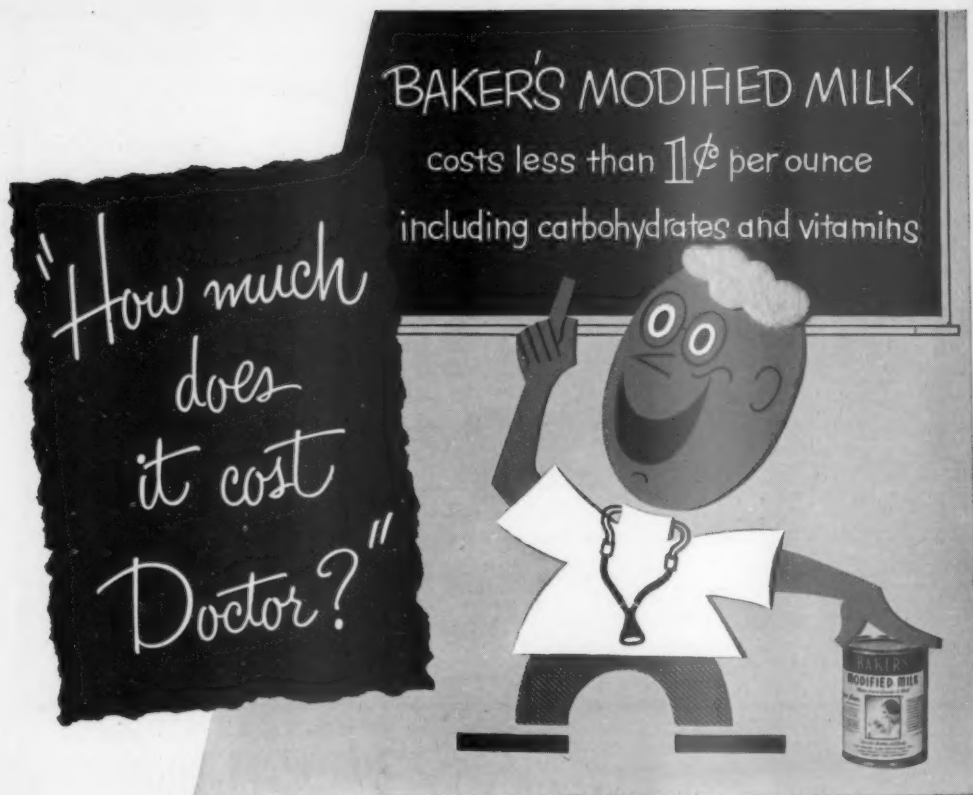
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1. Davidson, D. T., Jr.; Lombroso, C., & Markham, C. H.: *New England J. Med.* 253:173, 1955.
2. Zimmerman, F. T.: *New York J. Med.* 55:2338, 1955.



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